PB-230 081

# POLLUTION OF THE NAVIGABLE WATER OF THE DETROIT RIVER AND LAKE ERIE AND THEIR TRIBUTARIES WITHIN THE STATE OF MICHIGAN. SESSION (1ST) HELD AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN ON 27-28 MARCH 1962. VOLUME II. PART 2. TRANSCRIPT OF CONFERENCE

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

# JOINT FEDERAL-STATE OF MICHIGAN CONFERENCE
# ON
# POLLUTION OF NAVIGABLE WATERS OF THE DETROIT RIVER, LAKE ERIE, AND THEIR TRIBUTARIES WITHIN THE STATE OF MICHIGAN

First Session
Wednesday, March 28, 1962

Banquet Hall, Veterans Memorial Building
Detroit, Michigan

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Pages 516 through 970

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460

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

STATEMENT OF: PAGE:

JOHN CHASCSA, President, Lake Erie Clean-up Committee, Newport, Michigan 516

G. M. STREICHER, Vice President of Manufacturing and Assistant to the President, Monroe Auto Equipment Company, Monroe, Michigan 848

MAYOR LAWRENCE A. FROST, City of Monroe, Michigan 850

DR. C. D. BARRETT, SR., Director, Monroe County Health Department, Monroe County Courthouse, Monroe, Michigan 852

WILLIAM J. PHELAN, Publications Chairman, Monroe County Rod and Gun Club, 6280 Lighthouse Road, P. O. Box No. 1, Monroe, Michigan 857

LAURENCE M. BRAUN, 12629 Manor Boulevard, Detroit, Michigan, Chairman, Anti-Pollution Committee, Wayne County Sportsmen's Club 862

JAMES F. TOWNSEND, Supervisor, Bedford Township, representing County of Monroe, Michigan 865

DARWIN R. KURETH, Township Supervisor, Van Buren Township, Wayne County, Michigan 869

THOMAS S. WELSH, Drain Commissioner, Macomb County Drain Commission, Macomb County Engineering Building, 115 Groesbeck Highway, Mount Clemens, Michigan 874

OSCAR D. STRYKER, M.D., Director, and MERLIN E. DAMON, Sanitary Engineer, Macomb County Health Department 879

JOSEPH W. PRICE, Engineer, Washtenaw County Health Department, State of Michigan 882

ROBERT E. TEIFER, Mayor, City of Trenton, Michigan 926

ROBERT C. McLAUGHLIN, Vice President-Public Relations, McLouth Steel Corporation 935

ARTHUR S. GRISWOLD, Vice President, the Detroit Edison Company 938

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

(Continued)

STATEMENT OF: PAGE:

FRED NOYES, President, Michigan State Division, The Izaak Walton League of America 943

MICHIGAN UNITED CONSERVATION CLUBS 945

ROBERT E. HANSEN, Superintendent, Water Purification and Pumping, City of Mt. Clemens Water Department, Mt. Clemens, Michigan 949

FRED B. LIFTON, Director, Government Relations Department, Outboard Boating Club of America, 307 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago 1, Illinois 960

SUMMATION BY THE CHAIRMAN 961

TRANSCRIPT CERTIFICATION 970

# PROCEEDINGS

## STATEMENT OF JOHN CHASCSA, PRESIDENT, LAKE ERIE CLEAN-UP COMMITTEE, NEWPORT, MICHIGAN

MR. CHASCSA: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, Mr. Poston, and distinguished gentlemen.

I am John Chascsa, representing Estral Beach and people pinpointed on this map here. There are 49 communities.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are you going to let us have the map?

MR. CHASCSA: Very well. The map can become a part of the record.

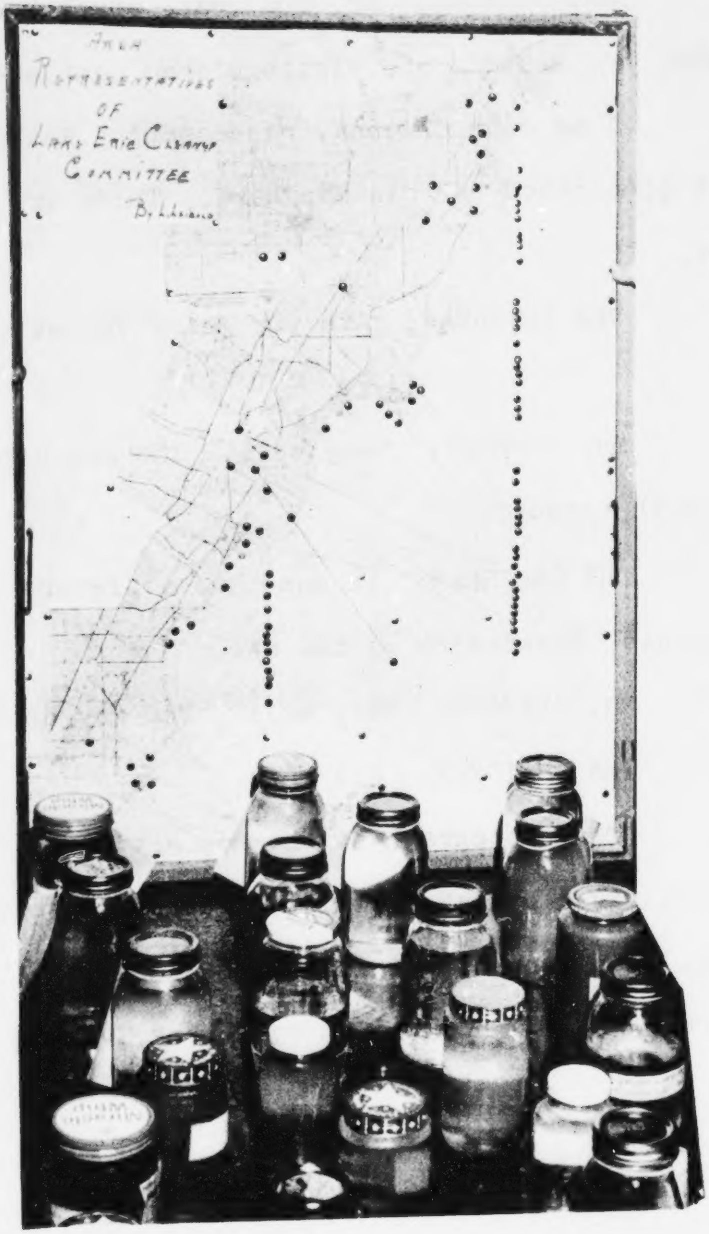
THE CHAIRMAN: We can take a picture of that and let you keep possession of the map.

MR. CHASCSA: Very well. You may do that.

THE CHAIRMAN: All right.

(The photograph of the map entitled, "Area Representatives of Lake Erie Clean-up Committee," by L. Liebold, with jars containing water samples in the foreground, is as follows: -- Photo taken by Monroe Evening News)

516a


AREA
REPRESENTATIVES
OF
LAKE ERIE CLEANUP
COMMITTEE

MR. CHASCSA: To show you little Estral Beach, located at the lower left-hand corner on Lake Erie, is not alone in this battle I am showing you this map. We are a small community striving and trying to better ourselves. When things are pointed out, as they have been in yesterday's session and today's session, such as the Army Corps of Engineers mentioned yesterday, Colonel Pfeil, in the cleaning up of the Rouge River and the River Raisin, all of the effluents and sludge and wastes created by the so-called outlet of the Detroit sewage disposal plant in the Detroit River, those of us who were here yesterday know how prominently it was displayed in the film.

According to the good Colonel this was a matter of record. The bottom is polluted and contaminated. Webster defines pollution as something altogether different from what most of us understand it to be. When we refer to pollution we connect it with contamination, disease, and so forth. That is not necessarily so. The definition, to quote Webster is as follows: "Pollute. To make or render unclean; to defile; desecrate; profane."

I don't know how we can do any more desecrating, profaning or polluting than we are doing at the present time, and, as Mr. Hazey stated, it is not only dangerous to wild fowl and it is not only dangerous to marine life, but dangerous to human beings. We certainly do not want second-hand water without it at least being treated.

We in Estral Beach, in the Monroe area and throughout the whole of Monroe County, feel that the closing of Sterling State Park is not or has not been the cause of our battle, or the cause of our petitioning this Commission for this investigation that is being held today. The investigation started quite a few years ago. We have people here, or should have, from Gibraltar. When this thing was first instituted I attended several meetings at which time Milton P. Adams had the floor, and I think Milton will remember when he had the floor for about three hours explaining the conditions of the Detroit River and the deplorable conditions that the wild animals and wild fowl had to endure. After he got through I had to ask him just what he meant or felt that we should do. The outcome of it was the formation of the Lake Erie Clean-up Committee.

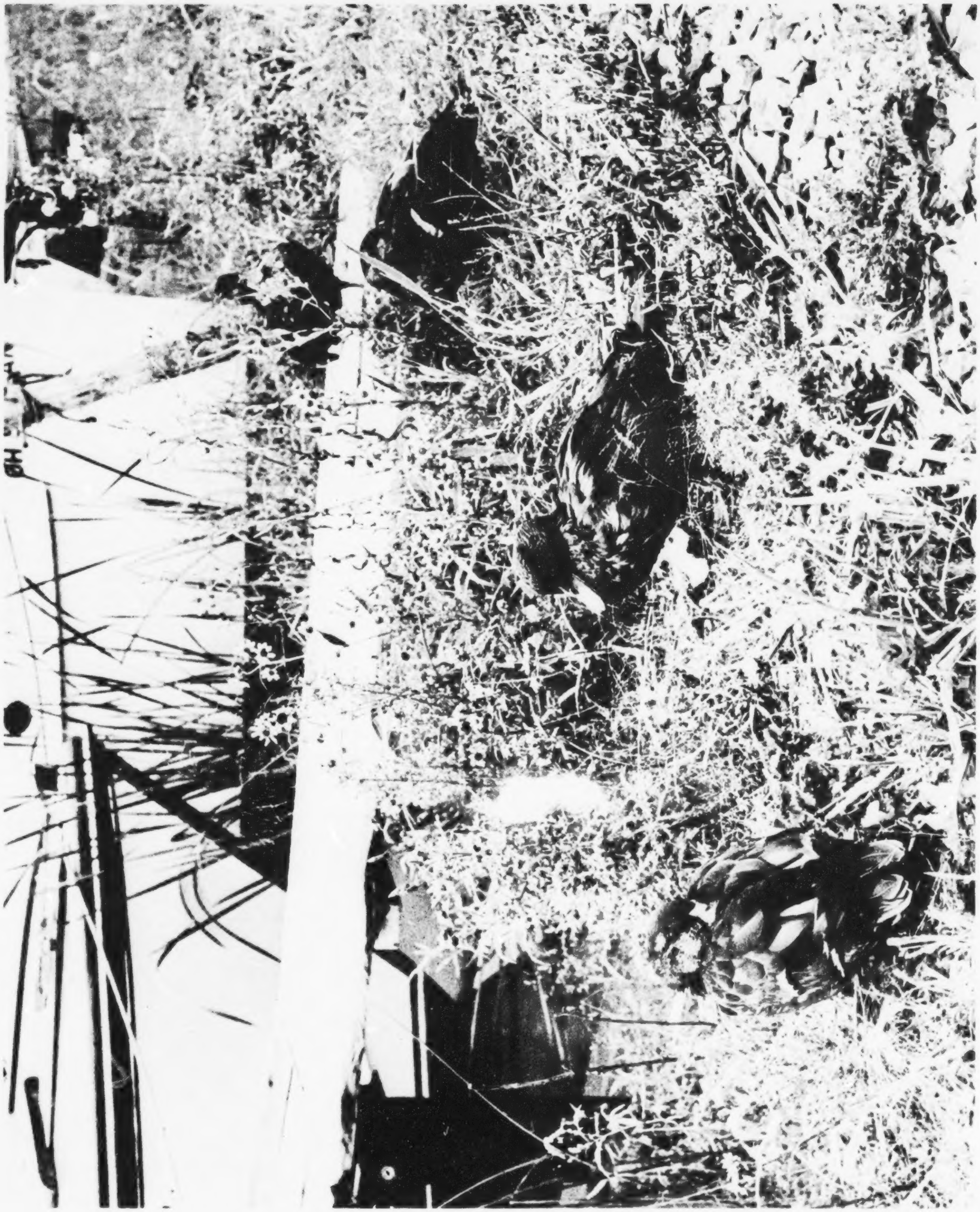
None of us care to be associated with pollution, I am sure. None of us care to associate ourselves with being connected with something unclean, but somebody has to do it. We realize that money has to be spent and that millions of dollars will not rectify this thing totally, but we do realize that something will have to be done or the Government will have to step in and declare our communities, along about a 43 mile waterfront, to be absolutely unfit for human habitation, or else we may be in the same condition as these poor ducks right here.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do you want to put those pictures in, too?

MR. CHASCSA: Yes. These pictures will be in, too. Whatever I have will be a matter of record, if you wish to put it in, as I mentioned before, Mr. Stein.

(Three photographs entitled "Gibraltar Police Chief with jar of oily river water," and "Gibraltar - oil soaked ducks," and "Gibraltar - Oil soaked duck," by Detroit News staff photographer Seiter, are as follows:)

519a



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GIBRALTAR
RESCUE
38

MR. CHASCSA: Secondly, I would like to bring up the possible loss of water supply to Monroe. Nothing has been mentioned about the water supply to about 43,000 people in Monroe County. Not a thing. Sterling State Park - - a money-making proposition, yes. That is very important to bring people into the state, but through the County and City of Monroe, and then you let them enjoy these depolorable conditions. It has been pointed out to you the tremendous drop last year from about 100,000 and some visitors to approximately 14,000.

I am sure we really have something to be proud of there.

Referring to the cooperation and the clean-up of the industries in the areas that have been mentioned on the map here, we have a certain paper industry that has threatened for the past three years to move out of the state if something was done to stop them from polluting the River Raisin. For my part, they can't move. If the Federal Government feels they should move from place to place like a person playing checkers and pollute every place they go just as a blowfly would, then that is the thing to do. Let's let them move and when the people in another locality get tired of them, after their resources are lost then I am sure they will be satisfied to see them move, too.

The number of people they employ is so insignificant along with the rest of industry, it is so insignificant that when you think an industry should be able to settle in a community at the expense of your recreational facilities and at the expense of your water supply, and then you have to turn around and spend additional funds to provide the things that God put on this earth for you to enjoy -- then believe me, it is time for us to be concerned. And we are concerned.

Now referring to the closing of the State Park, there was a survey that was made there to determine whether the waters were safe or were unsafe for the public. This occurred four years previous to the posting. I don't know whether it took that long to make the signs, or whether they got lost in the process of being made, or what happened, but evidently something must have come up because the signs were not available.

Referring back to the sewage in our community as one of the narratives up here today did, French Town has absolutely no knowledge of any sewers being put into their area. The reference that was made, as I have just within the last half an hour found out, was made to Sterling State Park. The people that are going to come into Sterling State Park are going to bring in business and money and spend that money. The people that live in the area shouldn't even be considered. I am one of those who lives there but the facilities should be put there for the visitors, I am sure. We all do that at home. One of you referred to the costs, as Mr. Remus pointed out, the tremendous costs. We are well aware of that and are well aware of what it is going to cost us in our community. We would be tickled to death if we were able to go out and borrow the money to rectify some of the conditions that exist in our communities there.

I remember not too many years ago when Oakland and Macomb counties were in the same predicament and the good Dr. Heustis here will remember that, and many of you people representing Detroit will remember that.

Every day these pictures were in the paper of people living in deplorable conditions, and there was nothing that could be done about it. The population outburst was so great, and the need for sanitation was there, and all of a sudden something happened. I'm tickled to death they got it and I only hope we are able to do it before an outbreak of hepatitis and other diseases occur again in Monroe County. I understand from our health department that 6.2 per cent of the hepatitis cases in the State of Michigan are centered right in Monroe County. I don't know why that should be, because we have no health problems there.

As pointed out on the map here, it is sparsely settled. There are no desecraters of our streams there. So the chromate that comes down the River Raisin occasionally is a figment of our imagination, apparently. The pulp paper that comes down the river occasionally, which the Army Engineers have to clean up, is a figment of our imagination.

I would like for any one of these gentlemen on the Commission to assure me that any one of these samples we have displayed on this table is safe enough to drink or swim in. I will keep my mouth shut then. If any of these people represented by these pins on this map were to see or to witness, or to be told that these gentlemen were willing to partake of that water and use it for any facility that they wished, I am sure that they would keep their mouths shut and consider themselves very fortunate; but I am sure that they won't do that.

I would like to read just one excerpt here and this is also for the record. The purpose of our Committee -- and incidentally you know we have no funds. Most of us take the money out of our own pockets to defray the cost of these trips to Lansing and here, and for the transportation provided for others of us who can sometimes gain the time to be able to go to the proper authority to find out just what in the dickens can be done. We take it out of our own pockets and until recently no one was interested in our expense account or whether we had stamps, or a telephone to be able to conduct our business or anything.

I am not up here looking for something. Believe me, I am not. I am tickled to death to be able to be a part of this and be able to be before you and explain our situation, and hope and pray you don't get into the same situation, and, if you are in that situation, that you will eventually be able to extricate yourself from that.

The purpose of our Committee is to eliminate human suffering because of pollution, a national scourge; to encourage further scientific research with regard to waste disposal; to make available our lakes and streams once more for fish, recreation, and consumption; to create, or to have created an Authority with sufficient powers to enforce all existing pollution laws as well as any that may be enacted in the future; to assist in any way possible to find ways and means of financing and to encourage construction of waste disposal plants for safe water facilities for home consumption.

Those are some of the things we would like to have accomplished through our efforts. People say that it cannot be done. Well, fortunately, we have one industrialist in our area, the Executive Vice-President of the Auto Equipment Company of Monroe who is very much concerned not only with the health of the people in the community but also with the quality of water being used, and water that has to be processed at tremendous expense after it leaves the shores or boundaries of Detroit.

DR. HEUSTIS: I have a statement that will be entered into the record after you are finished with your statement, from Mr. G. M. Streicher, dated March 20, 1962, from the Monroe Auto Equipment Company.

MR. CHASCSA: Very well, but that is not in reference to that statement, Dr. Heustis. This is from the Gerber Baby Foods in Fremont.

(The letter referred to is as follows:)

GERBER BABY FOODS
GERBER PRODUCTS COMPANY - 445 STATE STREET - FREMONT, MICHIGAN
DAN F. GERBER, PRESIDENT

March 2, 1962

Mr. William D. McIntyre
Executive Vice President and General Manager
Monroe Auto Equipment Company
Monroe, Michigan

Dear Bill:

I apologize for giving you such short notice of the meeting.

We did have an exceptionally good meeting and in checking up, after the meeting was over, I couldn't think of anyone who hadn't participated in the discussions, and I was pleased to note that a number of people who had said that they had to be out of the meeting at two o'clock were still there at ten minutes of three and really participating in the subjects discussed.

While I don't know that Greater Michigan could get actively involved in this pollution matter, it certainly is one of the things that we do have a great interest in, inasmuch as it affects one of the State's great assets. We, unquestionably, can help -- at least in shaping public attitude toward the problem.

We, as an industry, had a real problem about ten years ago. In the processing of fruits and vegetables it is necessary to use great quantities of water and while I feel that most of our turbid water with the solids removed was beneficial to fish life, it did put a burden on our local sewage disposal plant that it just couldn't begin to handle.

We bought a real poor sand farm about ten miles from the plant, put in a pipe line and started spraying this water on the land with suitable cover crops. It has worked fine in every respect.

Now I'm working on a committee of the Fremont Lake Improvement Association to make sure that we have adequate control over the septic tanks of lakefront property owners.

We were wrong in our attitude toward this whole sewage disposal problem for a great many years, until we woke up to the fact that it was our responsibility and we had to solve it. When we did get ourselves in this state of mind, it wasn't nearly as difficult as we had thought.

We will give you more advance notice of the next meeting.

Very sincerely,

(Signed) Dan

President of the Greater Michigan Foundation

Dan Gerber/jar)

* * * * *

It goes on into detail to explain how some of these things can be done. One of the things we are proposing or would like to propose and to see happen is some of the waste that is disposed of into our streams by industry, such as the paper companies, and such as the canneries, to use this same system.

It was pointed out in the course of the conversations or the reports being made today by one of the individuals that monitoring systems are and can be installed on your sewage disposal systems to determine the amount of sewage that goes through there, and so on and so forth. I would like to point out one industry which happened to be located, and I am not saying this to embarrass Mayor Tefer, but it is located in Trenton, which installed a monitoring system. I believe it was done at the request of the Water Resources Commission.

As Mr. Hazey pointed out, I do believe these gentlemen are striving very hard, but sometimes they overlook things too. There is no offense meant, but these people installed a monitoring system and afterwards found out that for at least two years they had been flushing at least five and a half million dollars worth of raw materials down the drains that was killing fish and ducks and in general raising havoc with our shoreline.

Below Trenton, approximately fifteen miles along the lakeshore, is the intake for the Monroe water supply. Monroe has been plagued, as has been Detroit and Flat Rock, for a supply of raw water for that particular area. I am sure that they would not want to give sewer water or sewage to the people that ask them for water, and until such time as they are able to guarantee good quality water I doubt very much if they will want to expand.

In the case of Estral Beach, what we would have to do for a small community such as we are is to run an intake out approximately a mile or two into the lake and we would have sufficient water, but we do not have today assurance that the water will be of the quality needed, especially since the good Colonel Pfeil pointed out that the sludge which is sucked up out of the Detroit River and the Rouge River was so contaminated that they have nothing they want to do with it except to take it down to our doorstep and dump it within a mile of our beach.

And if you know anything about sludge you know you can't pile it up. It doesn't stay in a pile. It's just like a bowl of mush. You stir it up with a bunch of milk and try to pour it into a pile, and it's going to reach out like that.

Also, the wave action of the water will eventually wash it up on the shores, contaminating the shores, and you have one heck of a time trying to clear your beach areas of your contamination once it gets imbedded into the sand. If it gets into your water supply, as Mr. Hazey pointed out, the cost of treating that water is so tremendous, and it gets to be more and more difficult, that eventually you throw up your hands in disgust and disappointment, and say what can we do.

The only answer I can see is the efficient cooperation, mutual cooperation, of our industrialists and our municipalities, and health department. If they haven't the strength or the power, or the authority to do the things they should do to eliminate this, then I for one, and my Committee will be more than glad to go out and devote any time necessary to help them get that power. I think that about 40,000 people in all should have a little power, especially when it comes to voting.

I am not going to belabor you with a lot more of this stuff except that I want to point out one other thing here. You see, we do follow the Water Resources Commission. I have your report here, and also a report of all the contaminated areas that have been notified of their actions and their contaminating processes, and so on. As I said, I do think that the people are trying to do a good job but somewhere, something is lacking, and I don't know what it is.

Here is an article from the Monroe News. It is dated the 23rd of January 1962. It reads as follows:

(The article referred to reads as follows)

## "Foaming Action" Chokes Waters...Time To Find an Answer

## Detergent Suds Threaten to Inundate Our Society

Sudsy creek waters in Monroe County are not an unusual sight. Writer Maya Pines, writing in Harpers Magazine, reports on the effects that the new detergents are having on our complex civilization and some of the danger involved. The following are excerpts from her articles, "Up to Our Necks in Soft, White Suds."

By Maya Pines

All over the country people who use synthetic detergents to keep clean are becoming a menace to their neighbors and themselves. So many of us now prefer the stuff to old-fashioned soap for dishes and laundry that we may well reach a point when we drown in our own suds.

Unlike ordinary soap bubbles, the foam produced by synthetic detergents defeats most efforts to destroy it. Even when it loses a battle and disappears, the chemicals involved have not lost the war -- they may yet reappear in someone else's drinking water, or cause foam in another place.

This stubborn foam is only a striking example of the troubles man is bringing upon himself with new insecticides, herbicides, rodenticides, solvents, and other "exotic" chemicals. Then common characteristic is most unwelcome persistence. Scientists are only starting to explore what the long-range effects to these chemicals -- including detergents -- may be.

"This is a live and vexing problem," says Raymond J. Faust, executive secretary of the American Water Works Association. "We're concerned about it because the use of detergents is increasing rapidly. They are only slightly removed by sewage treatment, they get into the streams, and we don't get rid of them in our water treatment, either."

Ironically, foam is not essential to cleaning, and sometimes even detrimental to it. A few suds help, since one of the factors in washing action is the reduction of surface tension to the point where water can bubble easily, but this happens even with the so-called "sudless" cleansers.

Manufacturers deliberately put in "foaming action" merely because people like it. Most housewives refuse to believe that anything is getting clean if they can't see the suds; only when there is foam do they know they have enough detergent to do the job. Furthermore, "rich white suds" look clean, inviting one to plunge ahead and do those dishes.

The people who have most cause for complaint about suds are probably those who live near sewage plants. They must accustom themselves to the sigh of monstrous blankets of foam, some as much as 10 feet high, billowing over aeratior tanks, and to the wind wafting clumps of the stuff right into their front lawns.

Anything that cleans is, by definition, a detergent. Soap is therefor a detergent, and so is sand although the word is seldom used that way. When people speak of "detergents," they usually mean the synthetic detergents -- "syndets" to the trade.

Most of these are based on petroleum derivatives, which are cheap and plentiful, particularly one called ABS (alkyl benzene sulfonate). ABS is so powerful that it will produce foam at the low concentration of one part per million parts of water. This makes it comparatively easy to identify; many other exotic chemicals discharged into our streams cannot even be detected by existing methods.

No such trouble arises with soap, which is based on animal fats. These decompose rapidly in waste-treatment plants and in streams; that is to say, bacteria gobble them up, until there is nothing left of the original waste.

Of all slippery substances, syndets are probably the most efficient at covering a wide territory. When they get into sewage systems that provide only primary treatment a settling process to remove solids -- the ABS passes through unchanged.

In rivers and streams, where it is discharged with other sewage effluents, only a fraction of the ABS is destroyed. Whatever remains and has not been washed out to sea will ultimately go from one layer of water to the next until it reaches the cleanest ground waters used for drinking, where it may last for decades.

So far, very few public water systems in this county have had trouble with detergents in drinking water. But people who depend on private wells cannot ignore the problem. In a recent study of individual wells in six widely separated areas, the U.S. Geological Survey found that 5 per cent of the samples had enough ABS to produce "unpleasant characteristics of bad taste, odor, or foaming," while another 15 per cent had "appreciable amounts" of it, though not quite enough to repel.

In the short run at least, detergents are not toxic in quantities which one can drink without gagging. But their presence in drinking water means that the water is unquestionably of sewage origin.

With all the problems raised by the synthetic detergents, one begins to wonder why people use them.

Not long ago we were all content with soap, which served man admirably for thousands of years. Syndets came out after World War II and originally were meant only for hard-water areas, where soap does not lather well.

Syndets now account for 80 per cent of all household cleaners. Hundreds of them with slightly varying compositions are on the market today, and new breeds appear regularly.

At the same time, industry has taken to syndets. It would be hard to find a piece of cloth in whose manufacture detergents have not been used several times. Trains, planes, dairies, and food plants are cleaned with them regularly. Altogether, detergent sales hit a new peak last year, reaching more than three billion pounds and $800 million, three-fourths of it in household products.

From the housewife's point of view, synthetic detergents undoubtedly perform better than soap in hard water areas, which include more than half of the country. However, "nobody has ever found anything more effective than soap in soft water," according to E. Scott Pattison, divisional manager of the Association of American Soap and Glycerine Producers, which represents both soap and syndets. "Commercial laundries still use soap, and install water-softening equipment to make it work," he points out.

There is a solution to the problem, but it requires considerable public pressure. In Great Britain, where the population is denser and the situation is prophetic of what we may expect here, the detergent nuisance recently reached extraordinary proportions.

Alarmed, the Ministry of Housing and Local Government set up a Standing Technical Committee on Synthetic Detergents to make regular reports. Soon, two new biologically "soft" detergents were produced. One is made from sugar, and the other is based on a revolutionary type of ABS developed by the Shell Chemical Co.

While ordinary ABS consists of branched molecules which intertwine and doggedly stick together, the straight-chain molecules of the new ABS are easily destroyed; yet they retain the stuff's superlative wetting, cleaning, and even foaming qualities. All detergents sold in and around the city of Luton, England, now contain the new, "soft" ABS as part of a large-scale experiment being conducted with the cooperation of leading manufacturers.

Nothing resembling these "soft" detergents is available in the United States today.

The laboratories of American refineries and chemical companies are full of similar products in various stages of development, but nobody is willing to come out with a detergent that costs a little more to manufacture, as the British type does, while competitors continue flooding the country with cheaper products undisturbed.

Unless the detergent manufacturers do something drastic about this voluntarily, however, the situation in some states may reach a point where legal action will be necessary.

Meanwhile, we can always go back to soap.

Now I would like to read a letter to the editor here in the same paper, the Monroe News, January 23, 1962.

# FEARS SUDS THREAT

Editor, Evening News:

Apropos of the article in Saturday's (Jan. 13) paper entitled "Gardyloo," culled from the Christian Science Monitor, I would respectfully refer you to the November, 1961, edition of Harper's Magazine.

In an article headed "Soft White Suds," Maya Pines, the author, discusses the problem of detergents -- particularly the inability of sewage systems to remove the syndets from the water.

The article discloses that in Britain, where the density of the population rendered the situation acute, the saturation of detergents was so wide-spread that rivers and canals were unable to treat ordinary sewage effluents. The detergents foamed on these rivers and canals to such an extent that boats found it necessary to carry anti-foaming equipment.

But experiments there produced two biologically "soft" detergents with a molecule structure which is easily destroyed by sewage treatment -- yet which is just as efficient as the "hard" detergents now used.

One is made from sugar and the other was developed by the Shell Chemical Co.

The article states that no such detergents are available in the United States today.

Doesn't it seem more sensible to attack the problem at its source rather than wait till the detergents reach our drinking water -- via the sewage plant?

Isn't it time now for the public to generate pressure on the detergent manufacturer's to produce "soft" detergents before we get foaming drinking water?

(Mrs.) Elizabeth Funk
321 W. Fifth St.

EDITORS NOTE: Elsewhere on this page is a condensation of the article from Harper's magazine to which Mrs. Funk refers.)

As you can see the Editor's note refers Mrs. Elizabeth Funk to the article which appears elsewhere in the paper, which I referred to before.

Mr. Remus mentioned in his discussion about drinking water -- and I remember not too long ago there was an article and I have the article right here --

DR. HEUSTIS: Do you think about five minutes more might do it, Mr. Chascsa.

MR. CHASCSA: I will hurry up with it, Doctor. It reads as follows: This is from the Detroit Free Press of December 15, 1961.

"Sarnia Absolved

Sarnia, Ont. -- Sarnia has been absolved of blame in polluting the St. Clair River.

L. F. Oeming, of Flint, Mich., chairman of the technical advisory committee of the International Joint Commission Waterways, said a statement made a week ago by Michigan Gov. John Swainson which named Sarnia was in error. The governor said his state was applying for federal American aid to clean up pollution in the Detroit River.

Mayor Iven Walker said the pollution referred to by the governor was confined to the Detroit River and comes from Detroit and Wayne County."

I am sure this didn't come from Wayne County and didn't come from Detroit, but came from Sarnia, I am quite sure, and I am at least almost positive because if it had come from Wayne County or the City of Detroit action would have been taken a lot sooner.

I think at this point Governor Swainson should be commended for his interest in calling in Federal agencies to assist us in trying to rectify a mistake which is so great in magnitude and so large in scope that I doubt very much if any of us will be able to settle the situation overnight.

We have reports here by the Water Pollution Committee of the state and reports by the Michigan Department of Health which I am not going to bother to read except that I want to refer to an article by the County Health Department of Monroe.

DR. HEUSTIS: Dr. Barrett is here, too.

MR. CHASCSA: I realize that. Dr. Barrett stated our conditions there were in pretty good shape but then on February 25, 1962 in the Toledo Blade there is an article entitled, "2,050-Mile Network. Raw Sewage Fouls Half of Monroe County Drains. Waste Disposal System Called Answer to Health Menace But It's Far In Future." It is quite a lengthy article and I am sure any of you who get the minutes of this proceeding will find it quite interesting.

(The article referred to is as follows:)

"There are 1,800 miles of open and 250 miles of closed drainage ditches in Monroe County, Michigan, one-half of which receive deposits of raw sewage, according to Donald Burton, county drain commissioner.

Some of the raw waste flows directly into the network from homes without benefit of septic tanks of leech beds.

Bedford Township, Mr. Burton said, has conditions 'as bad as you can find anywhere in the county.'

Since Bedford residents generally oppose drainage assessments, many of the ditches have not been improved 'in about 60 years,' the drain commissioner continued. This coupled with the township building boom lessening drainage space is contributing to an increasing health problem.

Some Overgrown

Some of the ditches are overgrown with trees and

and brush; pieces of tile may be found sunken in mud, Mr. Burton said. Farm equipment and household articles may be thrown in them to lay for months. Undersized drainage tile installed in subdivisions prior to the formation of a county plat board to guard against such practices has contributed to the problem.

Last year truckloads of mud were hauled away from one Bedford project. The odor, said Mr. Burton, was sickening.

This is not to say that the county or the township is becoming a cesspool, but the growing problem is one recognized by the county health department.

On the heels of Mr. Burton's complaints, the health department three months ago appointed its first sanitary engineer, John C. Hancock, to augment a staff of three sanitarians.

### Sewage System Held Answer

Mr. Hancock agrees with Dr. C. D. Barrett, county health director, that a sewage system is the answer, but admits initial steps to that end are still in the offing.

For the time being, said Mr. Hancock, his department is supporting a move requiring package sewage plants or similar systems in all new subdivisions, with the aim of eventually tieing them all together in one large county system.

But, because of his newness on the scene and because his time already is devoted to the pollution problem in Lake Erie as it affects Monroe County, a concrete plan has not been yet formalized, Mr. Hancock said.

'There are ways and laws to overcome this situation, he said. 'Perhaps we could get federal aid.'

Financing Problem

One of the recognized problems is financing. Mr. Burton pointed out that many miles of ditches may cut through one farmer's land, making him liable to larger assessment on an area basis than several persons living on smaller properties in the same vicinity.

A common complaint, the drain commissioner continued comes from a young, married couple with most of their cash tied up in a new home. When they learn of the health menace from improper drainage they often "live with the situation" rather than pay the cost of overcoming it.

Although a 1954 law prohibits raw sewage from entering drainage ditches, the practice was accepted before then and such installations made prior to that date cannot be removed, legally.

Mr. Burton said he had requested several persons, including some whose sewage enter the Temperance King Street tile directly from their homes, to at least install septic tanks. He learned that many of the lots were too small for even this improvement, and residents were not inclined to adopt his idea unless assured their neighbors would follow suit. As a result, he said, the installations, for the most part, have not been made.

Undertaking Survey

Bragdon Run, Flat Creek and Indian Creek Drain (a project on the latter was turned down this week in light of property owners' opposition) are included in the list of Bedford ditches needing improvements, Mr. Burton said.

Independent of other county interests, Bedford is, however, undertaking a survey to determine cost, kind and need of a township-wide sewerage system.

It is being prepared by Angelo Marion, who is township engineer by appointment and county surveyor by election. He also serves as adviser to the drain commissioner by reason of sitting in on county plat board meetings (the county register of deeds and county auditor comprise the other two-thirds of the three-man board).

Formed since Mr. Burton took office Jan. 1, 1959, the plat board is concerned especially with proper facilities in new subdivisions. One developer had to deepen and clean two miles of drainage ditches recently before his subdivision was approved.

Doesn't Mop Up Blight

This activity takes care of the present, but still does not mop up the blight from the past. Many people, satisfied with their individual drainage, object to an assessment to benefit property owners with lower land levels and receiving excess runoff from their higher-grounded neighbors.

Mr. Hancock early next week will survey Bay Creek, which wends its way across Bedford into Erie Township, as a possible pollution source and to determine what effect Bedford drainage is having on Erie, if any.

A Bay Creek project could be added to Mr. Burton's list, now being prepared for spring. In 1961, some $121,558 was spent for cleaning, widening, deepening and repairing ditches -- just a drop in the bucket, the drain commissioner said, in comparison to larger counties.

Most of Monroe County's ditches are short, he explained, accounting for the relatively low expenditure. Projects are started after public hearings by a three-man board of determination, which may or may not heed a property owners' vote at the hearings.

## Different Boards

A different board presides at each hearing, and members must reside in a neutral township. They serve at the rate of $8 a day at county expense.

Hearings are set by the drain commissioner after receipt of a petition signed by at least five property owners or by request of a township board. The assessment shows up on tax duplicates, could be as little as 50 cents or as much as $75 and could be payable in one year or seven years, Mr. Burton said.

One possible major project would be the three-mile deepening of Swan Creek from Newport to Lake Erie, north of Monroe. Mr. Burton met this week with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which has indicated it would spend up to $400,000 to prevent future village flooding, providing the drain commissioner's office assumes maintenance after completion of work. The outcome still is pending.

Contracts let so far this year are for Draper Outlet in Ottawa Lake and Stoney Creek in London and Exeter Townships. Board of determination hearings are scheduled for Stony Creek and Sandy Creek and the Townsend-Wheaton Drain, London; Big Sandy Creek, Raisinville, Frenchtown, London and Exeter Townships; French Creek, Raisinville; Heck drain, LaSalle; Ottawa River, Whiteford, and Loss-Marine-Grundman drain, Dundee and Raisinville Townships."

Then I have an article by Pat McNamara on pollution. He is quite certain it exists.

(The article of Senator Pat McNamara is as follows:)

"WATER POLLUTION CONTROL: The importance of pure, fresh water is an increasingly valuable asset for industrial expansion. We in Michigan with the greatest supply of fresh water in the world know this very well. We also realize that polluted water does not confine itself to state boundaries.

The Congress this year was able to express its responsibility in this area by enacting a greatly strengthened water pollution control program that will benefit 42 million people living in 5,000 American communities. President Kennedy took great pride in signing this bill into law.

This is a refreshing contrast from last year, when then-President Eisenhower vetoed similar legislation on the grounds that water pollution was a 'local problem'.

This program authorizes an additional $270 million to help communities build sewage treatment plants through 1967. It increases from $3 million to $5 million the Federal matching funds available to States to administer water pollution control programs.

Further, it authorizes the Secretary of Interior to invest $5 million a year in demonstration programs to treat sewage, measure pollutants, etc.

This law is a smashing victory for organizations that have been fighting for it for many years."

A week ago last Sunday an incident happened on the borders of Michigan and Ohio, in the Warren, Ohio, area. I was called at work. I was working Sundays so they called me at work and told me about the situation and I advised they get in touch with Mr. Hoffman of the Monroe Rod and Gun Club, and Mrs. Irene Finck, the secretary of our organization, and Mr. Lawrence Leibold, the treasurer of the organization which I represent, to see what could be done.

They came up with samples of the water on the river in their neighborhood. If it had not been for the fact that curiosity got the best of one of the residents

545 fols A

of Halfway Creek, we would probably never have heard about it. Fortunately the length of pollution existing at that particular time didn't burst into flames. Oil scum on the creek ranged anywhere from one inch to three inches in depth and if it had caught fire it probably would have created such havoc that people would have been well aware of the situation a long time before this.

I don't know why the health department and the commissioner didn't institute action and before I sit down I certainly hope I am given permission by the Chairman to have this Commission go on record as opposing the action by the Chevrolet Transmission Company who created this situation.

You see, in this paper --

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chascsa, I hate to interrupt and not give you an opportunity, but if you could present material that was not in clippings, I think it would be helpful, sir.

MR. CHASCSA: Very well, sir. I realize that this is boring. I have sat through a very boring day yesterday and I am sure a lot of these other people have. As you pointed out and as the people here pointed out I am not trying to make sport of this. Don't misunderstand me. I don't think this thing can be accomplished overnight and I don't think anybody who has anything to say should be told that we want to hurry up, because I think that the condition that exists at the present time was created by such hurry. I am sure that you want to do this job very well, just as much as I do and I am sure you are doing a good job and I want to see you continue to do it. I want you to bear with me as I have done with the rest of these people. I will be through here as soon as I read this letter.

THE CHAIRMAN: Fine.

MR. CHASCSA: It is addressed to the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and it will more or less summarize what I have to say and in probably fewer words that I would take if I go on rambling, because there are some many things to be talked about. All of you present I am sure are aware of it or you would not be here.

And then I would like to offer my material for inclusion in the record.

THE CHAIRMAN: Fine.

(The letter addressed to Mr. Stein, dated March 27, 1962, together with accompanying material is as follows:)

LAKE ERIE CLEANUP COMMITTEE
NEWPORT, MICHIGAN

March 27, 1962

Department of Health Education and Welfare
Washington, D. C.
c/o Mr. Murray Stein
Enforcement Department

Gentlemen:

I have been delegated to represent the people of Monroe County who are affiliated with our group, known officially as the "Lake Erie Cleanup Committee".

Our purpose is not to castigate, criticize, malign or in plain words, put anyone on the well known spot, but; to enlist the assistance of those who might know the answers to our problems thereby creating a better and more healthful atmosphere between the residents of Monroe County bordering on the Lake Erie shores and the Detroit River. To achieve this aim, we are prepared to use every resource at our command. Pollution and contamination of our streams and lakes must and will cease. If we can enlist the cooperation of those who are polluting our waters, as well as interested governmental agencies? In order to achieve our purpose, on the western Lake Erie shoreline, where most of us live, work and play, and which area we are mostly familiar with, we must go further up stream, to get to the source of our irritation.

Inasmuch as we have prepared considerable data to substantiate our position, we would prefer to have the material speak for itself, rather than belabour you with an extensive naration of the fact that pollution does exist. We are aware of its source and know that it is increasing rapidly. What we are principally concerned with is the fact that apparently little is being done about the situation by our constituted authorities.

It is the aim of our committee to get action. This is the purpose in our presence here. This is the purpose of making this presentation.

Lest you have fears, let me quickly add, this is no an action conclave but; a sounding board so to speak.

Our committee is but an infant organized in the month of September of nineteen hundred and sixty one. We merely picked up where other groups left off. Our appeals for relief have been far reaching [illegible] have included local and federal authorities as well as neighboring Ohio and Canada.

We have extended an invitation to the Army Corps of Engineers, the public, the press. In fact to any agency, group or organization whom we felt could contribute to or gain from our efforts, and it is our opinion that in spite of the authority vested in some of our agencies with whom we have come in contact, their hands seem to be tied by red tape, by disinterest, by lack of conviction, by fear of infringement on other authorities or agencies-or you name it-and where there should be unity and coordination and effectiveness as regards to regulations, laws and penalties governing water pollution, there is little if any action transmitted from department to department and no end results.

Permit me to cite a few examples. In our data, we are submitting a list of complaints among them a bill of complaint for an injunction by the Township of Van Buren against the city of Ann Arbor, city of Ypsilanti, and Ypsilanti Township 8-23-61. Complaint by Estral Beach, Gibraltar city, River View, Luna Pier, Monroe, Detroit Beach, Stony Point, Erie, Lost Peninsula, North Shores, Bay Crest, and many others. The sources mentioned are Detroit River, Huron River, Lake Erie, River Raisin, Swan Creek, Maumee River, Plum Creek, Ecorse Creek, and River Rouge, and many minor sources too numerous to mention. Viz: Article in Detroit Times, August 28, 1960.

We submit these letters, news articles and physical samples as proof, that a serious problem exists and it is getting worse. If we are to protect our property values, our health, the health of our children and the welfare of our great state, some one is just going to have to face up to their responsibility.

The Izaak Walton League has been fighting the pollution problem for many years. As have the Michigan

Botanical SOciety, Michigan Nature League, the Michigan United Conservation Clubs and many other groups, such as the Monroe Rod and Gun Club, the City of Gibraltar, the village of Estral Beach and others, too many to mention. The ravages of man are evident all around us and man alone can rectify his errors, before they become worse.

You certainly wouldn't sweep the litter of your home under the rug? You would pick it up and dispose of it by burning it or putting it in a receptical to be properly disposed of. You would not just carelessly jettison it so that it might find its way back into your home or your neighbors?

All our talk of sanitation, hygiene, good housekeeping and the like should show us the fallicies of our ways. The following is proof of what is happening to our fishing, our drinking water and water recreation.

It has been called to my attention that the City of Detroit burns their rubbish and garbage and what isn't used for fertilizer is flushed into the Detroit River where it piles up till navigation is hampered. Then the aid of the Corps of Army Engineers is enlisted to dredge and free the channel for normal navigation.

But; Gentlemen, what becomes of the sludge? You guessed it! It is carted to Lake Erie to be disposed of. There are at least twelve dumping grounds in the area from Cleveland to Detroit that I am aware of. These dumping grounds are displayed on navigation maps of Lake Erie. This is not all, there are many barge loads from Toledo plagueing the western shores of Lake Erie also.

This condition is not new in the United States. Many of our citizens all over the United States are plagued with like problems and there is no excuse whatever for such conditions to exist nor should they be condoned by any red blooded Americans.

As one Detroit city engineer put in (what should we do with our waste). I presume, the natural thing to do is to dump it on your neighbors doorstep? After all, big cities are immune to retribution by small suburban communities.

Let us not (as the Indian would say) talk with a forked tongue when we preach goodwill, let us live it also. Unless, of course it may be more profitable or lucrative to fool the public?

I am certain, that one could not neglect his home and have it go unnoticed by the Health Department or some such authority.

We speak of depressed areas, slums and under developed sections of our county. The incident of sewer extension in Wayne County and Detroit is an example of proper planning. Detroit is not prepared to handle their own sewage and instead of trying to eliminate the possibility of further creating a nuisance to the people below the Detroit

River they add to their treatment plants by diverting the sewage of the surrounding communities into their systems. If funds are not available to divert storm sewers so that sewage would flow uninterupted by storms into the proper channels (and I do not mean the Detroit River or Trenton Channel) for treatment, then surely funds could be diverted from some other source? If, as the President stated recently, there are funds in the amount of eight hundred million to one billion dollars for additional Federal Parks. Then there are funds to preserve the existing park and lake shore lines so they may be safe for those who can't fly to Europe or some safe foreign spa to enjoy their leisure time. I am certain, the redevelopment of the Lake Erie shores would be money well spent.

Monroe County needn't be a depressed area over which tourists have to gingerly step or clamp their nostrils shut to get to the north country or Detroit. Our beach residents need not be depressed because the funds for improvements are denied them on account of the location of their property (shores of Lake Erie). Even the lending companies are aware of the situation belaboring us. Why can't the same consideration be shown the tax payer as is shown to his foreign neighbor? Surely our property is as valuable to the economic structure of our country as that of Europeans? Or are we Midas' little helpers who are able to turn every thing we touch to gold? If so, why didn't someone tell us sooner?

If, (as the writer in the Michigan Health publication stated,) we shouldn't be unnecessarily alarmed, then why has so much emphasis been put on the many cases of diseases traced to the polluted waters of our water wonderland? The Health Department denies any pollution in Monroe County and yet, several weeks ago the Toledo Blade published a statement that the drain commissioner of Monroe County deplored the open sewers all over Monroe County and the potential health hazard. Isn't it sickening? All the data put out by the Water Resources Commission must be, at least partially correct, or they would not print it. I am certain they are making a good try at locating the sources of pollution. Why then do they have such difficulty in penalizing the offenders? The Water Resources Commission should be the last resort in the pollution control layout and not just an authority in name only. Surely, even the state government should be recognizing this fact? As I have previously stated, there is so much to say and the time is of the essence (although this matter should be resolved regardless of time) I shall let the information submitted to the Honorable Senator Phillip Hart and to the committee investigating these charges today and in the past, speak for themselves. With one exception, "That in any event, if funds are available to foreign countries with no collateral at low interest rates", that they be made available to those of us who need them for public improvements on the same terms. This area is as depressed as any I have seen in my travels around the country. Just a week ago, a large car manufacturer located in Toledo let a large amount of oil leak out into the Morin Point area thereby polluting the Silver Creek area in Toledo and Halfway Creek in Monroe County and we were advised by the Health Department of Monroe that they had no jurisdiction in that area. If it had not been for the curiosity of one of the residents of Halfway Creek and the resultant fire of that curiosity, the oil probably would never have been noticed. Why were the possibilities of an overflow not considered before this incident occurred? Do not all states have uniform regulation in this respect? Why were they permitted to install such a tank so close to a public stream? Why wasn't a retaining wall placed around the tank? Then the following day a pipe line was found to be disgorging into the River Raisin near Raisinville. This has happened on several occasions to the same line. Again, I repeat, put our up and coming research scientists to work, to find more and better means of disposing of our wastes. Let us employ people to reclaim these wastes and thereby create work and eliminate the need for tempers to flare unnecessarily. Here, I cite the courageous action by the Water Resources Commission in denying a pickling firm the right to operate until they had installed the proper disposal facilities for the wastes they would create. Unfortunately, this company had created havoc with the disposal system of Imlay City, in the meantime. Need more be said? Let each community èrect their own disposal system and every manufacturer reprocess his own waste before replacing the waters he has used as provided by state and federal law. A large sewage monopoly is not practical and becomes a monster hard to control when things start to go wrong. Let us remember that diverting sewage is not the same as treating it to make it safe.

Gentlemen, this about sums up our plight and the answer seems to rest with you. If you are powerless to act, and the State Health Department is powerless and the Water Resources has no power, then it seems a waste of the tax payers money to maintain such an agency, and perhaps the elimination of it (or them) is the answer. "Look at the money we could save". We certainly wouldn't employ a policeman and then refuse to give him the necessary tools to perform his duty?

In closing I wish to thank y personally and the Lake Erie Cleanup Committee. Also thank you for the opportunity to come before you to be heard and I certainly hope the solution to our problems is born here today. To quote

Webster: Pollute--to make or render unclean, to defile, desecrate, profane.

Respectfully submitted
For the "Lake Erie Cleanup Committee"
(Signed) John Chascsa, Chairman

* * *

Mar. 20, 1962

Subject: Water Pollution
From: The President of the Stony Pointe Bch. Association
To: The Lake Erie Clean up Committee

The Board of Directors of Stony Pointe Bch. have discussed water pollution at length and we feel that drastic action has to be taken in the near future. Since a meeting has been called for Mar. 27, to discuss water pollution, we feel that our immediate condition along our Lake front should be presented to the proper authorities of our great State.

The necessary improvements that we urgently need for the Health and Welfare of our residents we cannot afford because of the loss of approximately 700 feet of Lake front property, formerly used for recreational purposes, which no longer has any value if the present condition exist. Due to the pollution in the water we could not use our Lake front during the swimming season of 1961.

In this area, where we have no proper drainage and contaminated water, the health of the people is in jeopardy.

The cases of Hepatitis and other infections are known to be high in all the area along the Lake Erie shore line.

We have contacted the proper authorities many times about the debris and silt along our shore line. In July of 1961, the Army Corp of Engineers were contacted and picked up four samples from our Lake front to be analyzed. They reported back that this debris was paper pulp presumably washed back from Monroe paper mills. Also in July 1961, representatives from the State Water Resources Commission came to look at our water and no report was ever received from them. A letter complaining of the deplorable conditions of our Beaches, dated July 17, 1961, was sent to all our Local and State officials concerned. No reply was ever received from any of them.

The Lake Erie Clean up Committee can expect our full cooperation pertaining to this letter.

Sincerely,

(Signed) B. C. Pierce, Pres.

Stony Pointe Bch. Ass'n

* * *

March 22, 1962

TO: The Lake Erie Clean-up Committee

FROM: Brest Bay Grove Beach Association

SUBJECT: Water Pollution

The Board of Directors of Brest Bay Grove Beach

Association, Frenchtown Township, Newport, Michigan; have discussed the water pollution problem along our shoreline of Lake Erie at great length. We feel that drastic action must be taken in the near future.

Since your Committee has set up a meeting for March 27th to discuss this problem, we feel that our immediate water pollution problem should be presented to the proper authorities of Michigan.

In this area, where we have no proper drainage for the contaminated water, the health of the people is in jeopardy. The cases of hepatitis and other infections are very high along the Lake Erie shoreline.

We have contacted the proper authorities many times about the debris along the shoreline:

> In July, 1961, the Army Corp of Engineers were contacted. They picked up four samples from the Stoney Pointe Beach lake front to be analyzed. They reported back from their office that this debris was paper pulp presumably washed back from the Monroe Paper Mills.
>
> In July, 1961, representatives from the State Water Resources Commission examined the water. No report was ever received from them.
>
> A letter, complaining of the deplorable conditions of our Beaches, dated July 17, 1961,

was sent to all of our local and state officials concerned. No reply was received from them.

As a result of this condition, our property is losing its value. We cannot attract any new residents, let alone bring back our regular summer trade. (We could not use our lake front during the swimming season of 1961.)

We trust you will give this problem your utmost attention. Thank you.

BREST BAY GROVE BEACH ASSOCIATION

(Signed) Erich Young, President

* * *

ROUGE RECREATION BOAT CLUB

174 Burke Street River Rouge 18, Michigan

Vinewood 2-3640

March 22, 1962

To Whom It May Concern:

The Rouge Recreation Boat Club fully endorses the stand the Lake Erie Clean-Up Committee has taken in the fight to eliminate pollution of Michigan waters. We, in River Rouge, have much in common with the Clean-Up Committee. We, too, are fighting to eliminate the pollution of our waters

The Detroit River and Rouge River are part of the boundaries of our city and are great contributors to our pollution problem. Industries along these two rivers have been operating outside the pollution laws for years unchecked.

Due to the unchecked industries and municipalities, our waters are a cesspool for the collection of corruption of our State.

Wildlife is not abundant in our area as it was in years past. Breeding grounds have been destroyed by polluted water. Dead waterfowl are found in abundance along our shores.

We were once able to stand with our head high when fishing was talked about because we knew there was no better area than ours, but no more. The river now produces second rate fish, and when one is caught, it is not edible because of oil or chemical traces in the meat.

Boating is a hazardous sport today due to objects thrown in the water. Logs as large as telephone poles are not an uncommon sight when out for a boat ride.

Swimming is something of the past. Ear infection is very common to those who do venture into our waters for a swim.

The greatest of all the evils brought upon by pollution is the threat of disease. In the past hepatitis was almost unknown in our area. Today it is an everyday word. Typhoid, Skin Infection, Poliomyelitis and Meningitis are only a few of the diseases that are found to be lurking in the waters of our area.

Is our beautiful Water Wonderland to be destroyed by a few villainous individuals who have no respect for the laws and rights of his fellow man? We, the members of our club, will never willfully stand by while this takes place. We will continue to fight with every weapon at our disposal to put a stop to the destruction of our State's water.

(Signed) Billie K. Payne

Water Pollution Committee

* * *

STONY POINT PENINSULA ASSOCIATION

Route No. 2
Newport, Michigan

March 21, 1962

Mrs. Irene Finck
3003 - 11th Street
Detroit Beach Association
Monroe, Michigan

Dear Mrs. Finck:

Relative to your work with the Lake Erie Clean-Up Committee, we should like to register a complaint from residents of Stony Point Peninsula Association relative to polution and unsightly conditions of our Lake Erie beaches.

The first is that raw sewage has been occasionally reported by our residents. The source of this contamination is not readily recognized, but the pollution danger is clearly evident and of the highest degree.

Another item which causes considerable concern to all the residents is the scum or residue that continues to pile up on our beaches. This is recognizable as a comparatively large, but light, particle size that deposits on our beaches, particularly on the beaches facing our prevailing winds. This scum is not only unsightly but contributes to the pollution of our waters and, furthermore, decreases considerably from the valuation of the general property in our area. As further evidence of this polution, we have seen no walleyed pike in this area in the past five years and, in fact, except for perch there is a lack of all species that prefer to live and reproduce in relatively clean areas.

In view of these conditions, we would appreciate your bringing this to the attention of your committee for further action in cleaning up Lake Erie. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) C. F. Orloff

Secretary

Stony Point Peninsula Association

* * *

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WOODLAND BEACH ASSOCIATION

3250 Parkwood

Monroe, Michigan

March 17, 1962

Lake Erie Cleanup Committee,
c/o Mrs. Irene Finck, Sec'y.
3003 Eleventh, Detroit Beach
Monroe, Michigan

Dear Mrs. Finck,

We have a definite problem on our Beach in the summer time. The beach itself has to be cleaned every day of dead fish and debris in large quantities. It takes a tractor and truck to accomplish this plus manpower. The pollution of the water is the cause of the dead fish.

The Board of Health declaring our waters unfit for bathing is also hurting our Association as a summer resort. The sale of property is at a stand still. The water is so filthy that no one cares to go in swimming. The situation as a whole is deplorable and anything that can be done to alleviate this would be greatly appreciated.

The Board of Trustees of this beach is with the Cleanup Committee all the way and anything we can do to help win this fight please advise.

Thanking you, we remain

Yours very truly,
New Beach Association, Inc.
(Signed) Melvin Currey, Sec'y.

* * *

As a representative for the people in the Plum Creek Bays and Schreiber's Bay area, I would like to inform you of the trouble we have had in trying to keep our bays clean.

When the port commission wanted to clean out the turning basin, they got the permission from the army engineers to dump their spoils into the marsh on their side of the bay. There was never a public hearing, so the people who own the property on the south side of the bay could protest the dumping of the spoils into the marsh surrounding the bay.

When we found out what was going on, we contacted everyone we could think of to help us to keep our bay clean. We even hired an attorney which cost us five hundred dollars. We pleaded with the army engineers not to let them dump their spoils into the marsh without a dike. They said the cattails would hold it back. Anyone whose supposed to be an engineer, and make a statement like that, doesn't make sense. When the dredge was in operation, it uprooted cattails and sent them flying as everyone knows who heard about it. All the fish in our bay were killed; the water was covered with oil and filth, and a lot of our bays were filled in.

Now they are filling in the property with trash brought in by carloads from out of town. They promised us a dike around the port commission property so their filth would stay on their own property. They dug about 900 feet and built what they called a dike on the southwest end of their property. Most of the time it is under the water; and it is not completely around their property. We have complained about it; but as yet, we have had no satisfaction. Last summer large schools of bullheads and catfish were raised behind my home. They were just starting to replenish, due to the fact, some time had elapsed from the time the spoils had been dumped from the turning basin and now the spoils are being brought in by the car loads. They have been dumping, and are still dumping into the marsh. When the water was up last summer, a north wind blew the oil chemicals and filth, that was on top of the water, over to our side of the bay. This destroyed all the small bullheads and catfish in the area.

The port property is owned by the city of Monroe, and managed by the port commission. They know that the law states that you cannot dump filth on your side of the bay, and pollute the water for the people on the other side. We are not rich people; they know that we cannot afford to fight them in court, so they disobey any law they want to, for their own convenience.

As it is today we have dirty, filthy, stinking bays and these waters go into the lake, from which we get our drinking water and our recreation.

The port commission claims that they are filling the land with foundry fill. I can prove otherwise. I have visited the dump many times and seen barrels of lacquer, rubber tires, rags, clothing, plastics, debris soaked with oil, and five gallon cans filled with assorted chemicals. They burn rubber tires and a great deal of rubbish. Then they get bulldozers and push it into the marsh and the water is all covered with filth. With the proper wind the filth is blown all over the bay.

I would also like to know just what is meant by riparian rights. I had the understanding that you can hunt and fish in the waters and bay. If you use the water, you must return it in the same condition that you receive it, and you are forbidden to pollute it; but you do not own it. Being that their dikes extend into the bay, they have riparian rights the same as we; which means they do not own it. How can they claim this property? I thought all public land should be kept in trust by the state for the good of all the people and future generations.

The Monroe Townsite Subdivision does not have adequate room for septic tanks. The lots are small and the houses are close together. Still, they are issuing more building permits and letting them build more homes there. The city wanted to incorporate them and provide sewage, but they refused because their taxes might be increased. A great deal of this sewage goes into a county drain and empties into Plum Creek. Plum Creek flows into Plum Creek Bay and Schrieber's Bay.

When the port commission filled in the land on the north side of Plum Creek, they did not build a dike. As of now, Plum Creek is practically all filled in. It is very shallow and the water flow is not normal. In the spring when the water is high, it backs the water up and floods the Eighth Street, Winchester Area. We need this flow of water in order to clean and keep it clean. Plum Creek is a main county drain. After the port commission finished filling in their property, they made no attempt to clean out Plum Creek, after pushing their debris into the creek with bulldozers. The people complained about being flooded out. Still the drain commissioner has done nothing to compel the port commission to clean it out. It is against the law to fill up a county drain, but as usual they got away with it. In the summer time Plum Creek is so polluted that it gives off a very offensive odor.

Every time the filth is cleaned out of the turning basin, which amounts to a year of accumulation, it is taken out into the lake and dumped. I have been out on the lake when this has taken place. The oil and scum rises to the top and floats around. I have seen this operation done in the summer when the park was full of swimmers, and a southeast wind blew all this scum and filth over to where the swimmers were. I recommend that the spoils be dumped on the port commission property behind a dike. All the filth that does not reach the lake by the natural current is taken out there by the dredge boat. If we intend to keep the lake clear and clean, we will have to stop this immediately!

(Signed) Anthony V. Collino

* * *

Gibraltar, Mich.
March 17, 1962

Lake Erie Clean-up Committee

Gentlemen:

May we take this opportunity to advise your most worthy committee of a pollution condition existing here at the lower reaches of the Detroit River on the mainland side of this Great Water-Way; where it empties into Lake Erie.

During the early spring and throughout the summer months, marvelous catches of Walleyes and Yellow Pickerel can be taken through the sports fishing methods of trolling, chugging, and still fishing. Very often the catches in these waters on the west side of Grosse Ile will be as great as 5 to 1 in comparison with the other branch of the Detroit River namely the waters on the east side of Grosse Ile, however, the fish are Tainted so badly that they can not be eaten, the Taint seems to be of a combination of chemical and oil, or phenol contamination. Can't something be done to remedy this situation? We all fully realize the value of our industries relative to mans livelyhood and the economy of the area in general.

We hope we are not absured in expressing the desire of work and sports fishing also, with an end product of good edible fish free of contamination.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) "Hy" Dahlka

29291 Lowell

Gibraltar, Michigan

* * *

March 17, 1962

Lake Erie Clean-up Committee

Dear Sirs:

We here at the mouth of the Detroit River have a problem relative to Migratory Waterfowl that winter in this area, in the open waters that is created by the industries using the Detroit River water for colling purposes, in so doing keeps its temperature above freezing all winter long.

However, with the greatly extended use of the automatic washing machines in the home these days, all using a cup of strong detergents per washer of clothes, or 6 or 7 cups of detergent per wash day, per family, which ends up in our rivers and lakes, and which takes all the natural oil out of the wintering ducks' feathers causing them to loose their floatability, from feather soaking, and wind up dying of cold and exposure by the thousands.

This is a relatively new form of water pollution and contamination, which we feel should merit serious consideration.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) "Hy" Dahlka

Gibraltar Duck Hunters Assn.

"Hy" Dahlka, President

* * *

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Mrs. Irene Finck, Sec.
3003 Eleventh Street
Detroit Beach
Monroe, Michigan

Dear Mrs. Finck:

In answer to your letter of February 21, I have listed here the sources of pollution and the type we have been combating for years.

First on the list is Adrian, from this city we are continually getting clouds of cyanide from the two plating companies there. Sometimes in such concentrated form as to endanger our water supply.

From Tecumseh, Blissfield, Deerfield, and Petersburg we get the usual wastes. Blissfield, Deerfield, and Petersburg having no sewage disposal plants makes it pretty rough, and now a new monster has reared its' ugly head to plague us - from the laundromats come detergents, so concentrated as to raise billows of suds below our dam to a height of 12 to 18 inches. I have conferred with our water department head, Mr. Austin, and he informed me that detergents had reached such a high percentage in the raw river water as to make filtering practically impossible with our present equipment.

What can be done to leviate this condition is beyond my comprehension. It seems our only hope is State intervention and subsequent legislature with power to put a stop to making open sewers of our rivers, lakes, and streams by industry and municipalities. Surely, if conditions are allowed to continue unrestricted, they will get steadily worse until all our water resources have passed from us.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Ivan D. LaVoy

* * *

March 17, 1962

Monroe, Michigan

Great Lakes Clean-Up Committee;

My name is Robert W. Peterson, partner of the Peterson Fish Co. Mrs. Finck phoned me the other day concerning the tainting of fish in the lake. We have received complaints from our customers starting about two years ago.

They claim the fish have a oily-kerosene taste and the meat of the fish mushy and not firm, in the case of a Lake pickerel. I have had the occasion to have gone through the same experience, and know their story was a true fact. This happened a number of years ago on Sagenaw Bay making the fish unmarketable.

I do believe that since the opening of the Seaway, ships entering the lake from the Detroit river have caused a great deal of trouble. We fish commercially in that area, and I have seen many a time the pumping out of oil bilges covering the lake in a slick into about a block area. They also empty all their garbage, refuse and anything else into the Septic tank. This is much easier than taking off at a Port. We have had many a times, a waste material they use in wiping up their machinery entwine in our nets. This stuff is a fluffy material grease and oil soaked and practically impossible to get out of our fishing nets. All this matter from the boats and the oil coming out of the Detroit river on certain prevailing windy days, is a matter and sight to behold. Just to hear me write about it is of no concern. But to actually see it for one's self is another matter. It is not only the northern end of the lake. Toledo has a great deal of the same thing. We do know that at the present time, commercial or sport fishing on Lake Erie is in a critical stage. The Petersons have for nearly a century, made a livelihood from fishing, all our years and investments will have gone down the sink. We are too old to start anew. I do hope this will help. Thank you.

(Signed) Robert Peterson

* * *

Monroe, Michigan
March 17, 1962

Lake Erie Clean-up Committee
c/o Mrs. David Finck
Detroit Beach
Monroe, Michigan

Dear Mrs. Finck:

The members of the Jefferson Adult Boosters Club wish to commend you and your committee for their efforts in seeking a solution to the polution problem in Lake Erie.

It is a tremendous task and we hope this letter will serve as a verbal "pat on the back" to you and your committee.

Sincerely yours,
Jefferson Adult Boosters
(Signed) Carl Ainslie, Pres.

* * *

March 2, 1962

Lake Erie Clean-up Committee
Mrs. David Finck, Sec.
3003 Eleventh St.
Detroit Beach
Monroe, Michigan

Dear Mrs. Finck:

Being an avid fisherman and thoroughly enjoying all water sports I have forcibly become very dubious of our great State's slogan: "MICHIGAN - the water wonderland".

No longer are our Lake Erie shores the haven for water enthusiasts. No more can we boast of the great numbers and species of fish to lure the out-of-doors-men and, no longer can we say: "Relax and enjoy the clean white sands of our beach areas"!

The reasons why are all too well known to those among us who once enjoyed these exclusive privileges. It is our hope and prayer that your committee will prevail upon State and Federal Government Aid to help restore to southeastern Michigan its proper and fitting tribute . . . "The Water Wonderland".

(Signed) Patrick J. Finn
834 Winston Drive
Monroe, Michigan

* * *

March 2, 1962

Lake Erie Clean-up Committee
Mrs. David Finck, Sec.
3003 Eleventh St.
Detroit Beach
Monroe, Michigan

Dear Mrs. Finck:

As an owner-taxpayer of beach area property that has depreciated in value over 40% in a short 15 years contrasted with real estate in other general areas that have enjoyed a two-fold appreciation, I feel that much is left to be desired concerning our Lake Erie shore property values.

Please allow me to site just a few of the deteriorating facts involved:

(1) Condemned Drinking Water

(2) Swimming area water pollution

(3) Unsanitary sewerage disposal

(4) Improper Drainage

(5) Insufficient Recreational Facilities

I might add, these same points were covered in my conversation with Mr. Rademacher and Mr. Johnson, of the Federal Water Pollution Commission. You, and your committee have my whole-hearted support.

(Signed) Milton King

120 E. Grant, Monroe, Michigan

Mrs. Irene Finck
3003 Eleventh St.
Detroit Beach
Monroe, Michigan

The Avalon Beach, Wahl's Grove Improvement Ass'n, has arrived at this complaint in our immediate area.

Raw sewage from Woodchuck Creek runs into Lake Erie at Avalon Beach. This is the borderline for Monroe and LaSalle Township line.

Cordially

(Signed) Miriam Wise, Sec'y.

* * *

MONROE COUNTY ROD AND GUN CLUB
Monroe, Michigan
Box No. 1 6280 Lighthouse Road Phone: Cherry 1-9705

February 23, 1962

Mrs. Irene Finck, Secretary
Lake Erie Cleanup Committee
3003 - Eleventh Street
Detroit Beach
Monroe, Michigan

Dear Mrs. Finck:

As you know, the Monroe County Rod and Gun Club has been working on pollution for the past twenty years. Mr. C. W. "Ted" Hoffman has been chairman of our pollution committee the greater part of this time. He has worked diligently under difficult conditions and has spent many hours, as well as personal expense, acquiring samples of water and contacting the people who are responsible for polluting our waters. Unfortunately, he has received very little help from them. Our club has supported Mr. Hoffman in every effort he has made regarding this cause. May I add that we are extremely grateful to see our neighbors taking an interest in this problem.

With the number of reports, from state and federal agencies, forecasting the water shortage which will be experienced as early as 1980, we feel that it is each and every person's duty to lend their support in helping to eliminate the pollution now existing in the Great Lakes, rivers, and streams. We have, at no time, had the desire to force anyone, including industry, municipal groups, etc., who have been polluting our waters, to spend large sums of money or create undue hardship upon them. We believe that anyone using the excuse, or expression, "What do you want us to do? Layoff our people, close our plants, or, pollute your streams?", have not the community or state's interest at heart.

It is obvious that the time has come when each and every one of us, whether he be part of industry, municipal groups, home-owner, etc., must take it upon himself to do whatever he can to eliminate pollution. This, for the following reasons: (1) Increase in population; (2) Water shortage, which is very apparent and will continue to increase; (3) Illnesses which have been traced to improper control of sewerage. This is a problem for each individual in the state, but we also feel that the agencies responsible for this type of control can no longer overlook any part of pollution.

Any one of our state agencies feeling that because the federal government is working on this project, it is automatically taken out of their hands should realize that the situation has become serious enough to require their help as well. They should be most willing to work with the federal agencies, rather than feel they no longer have a responsibility to the state.

It is our intention to continue to fight for the correction of pollution, whether or not the present cleanup committees are successful.

Yours very truly,

MONROE COUNTY ROD AND GUN CLUB

(Signed) V. F. Kane

President

* * *

**BAYCREST**

**INC.**

Box 35 Monroe Michigan Shelby Brooks-Pres.
3574 Baycrest Dr.
Baycrest Beach

March 17, 1962

WE the people of Baycrest being property owners on Lake Erie in which we have invested a good deal of money to purchase homes and cottages so we could enjoy the pleasures of swimming, boating, fishing etc. Now it is a health hazard. We came to the beach so our children could enjoy the sandy beaches and grow healthy in this environment. What do we have? Whenever there's an east wind there are dead rotting fish. Water so black with slime you cannot wade let alone swim.

Due to lack of control and selfish Industrialists we have one of the most degrading circumstances of water pollution that has not only lowered our property value but has brought about many infectious diseases. Hepatitus for one and many skin disorders eye ear in particular.

It is quite alarming to think we have no protection from these things and cannot raise money to help combat them.

We have now turned to Our Government which is supposed to Of The People By The People And For The People.

Won't you please help?

We support the Lake Erie Cleanup Committee

(Signed) Shelby Brooks

* * *

## OIL, CHEMICAL AND ATOMIC WORKERS INTERNATIONAL UNION, AFL-CIO

## TRENTON LOCAL NO. 7-456

A RESOLUTION ON THE TRENTON CHANNEL AND ANTIPOLUTION:

WHEREAS: Congressman John Lesinski has a proposal before Congress to deepen and extend the Trenton Channel into Lake Erie, and

WHEREAS: Such proposal would provide facilities for industrial expansion, thereby creating job opportunities and strengthening our national defense efforts, and

WHEREAS: Such job opportunities are much needed in this highly distressed employment area, and

WHEREAS: The use of the Detroit River and other existing natural resources is a privilege which should not be abused by industrial mismanagement, and

WHEREAS: Many industries located in the Detroit and Downriver areas have shown dollar expediency and utter contempt for the privilege of using these natural resources by dumping industrial wastes into the Detroit River, thereby destroying millions of dollars worth of recreational facilities, destroying fish and game, and turning the Detroit River and Lake Erie into a cesspool of industrial garbage, and

WHEREAS: These same industries, through air polution, have shown utter contempt for personal and community properties by turning some of these properties into industrial blights, and

WHEREAS: Existing controls have proven weak and ineffective in eliminating these abuses; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: Local 7-456, OCAW, vigorously supports the proposal to deepen and extend the Trenton Channel, and be it further

RESOLVED: Local 7-456, OCAW, urges the adoption of enforceable ordinances and legislation with penalties so severe it will eliminate these industrial blights and the needless destruction of our natural resources, and be it further

RESOLVED: Local 7-456, OCAW, urges all organizations, governing bodies, and interested citizens to support the Trenton Channel proposal and also to support appropriate Antipollution ordinances and legislation, and be it further

RESOLVED: Copies of this resolution be sent to Congressman John Lesinski, Senators Hart and McNamara, Governor John Swainson, Labor Organizations, Newspapers, and other interested organizations and citizens.

LOCAL 7-456, OCAW, AFL-CIO
(Signed) B. E. Henson, President
30478 Young Drive
Gibraltar, Michigan

The above resolution unanimously adopted by the membership of Local 7-456, OCAW, in a general membership meeting held on February 1, 1962.

* * *

ARTHUR SCHYLLANDER
FOLDING BOXES
ADVERTISING
Box 630 B Morin Point Erie, Michigan

3-26-62

Dear Mr. Minnick,

This extreme southeastern corner of Monroe County used to be a swampy fringe, heavily wooded and brush covered. Frequently, high water would wash over the land. The streams which coverge into what is referred to as North Maumee Bay were at one time world famous for Egyptian Lotus.

Over a period of time, people from nearby areas built homes here, cleared the land of it's brush and weeds, fortified the waterfront, established a good roadway and built a fine fire department and community building. This fire department was built and paid for entirely by the new residents, without any tax monies or financial help of any kind from the township or county.

Many thousands of dollars have been spent to build homes and to build up the land into fine lawns and gardens. The residents are home owners . . . . They have actually created taxable wealth out of what was once listed as swamp land.

The people of the area have a common interest in the water facility and every resident has his own dock and watercraft. This water area is their chief field of recreation. It is the most precious residential asset. They fish from their docks, their children play in the water. They sail, outboard, water ski and canoe in the surrounding waters.

Now, all of this is ruined by a foul smelling layer of dangerous and highly inflammable oil that covers the water from shore to shore. No fish can survive in the water nor can children play in it any more. Boating will be dirty and dangerous and all of the homes and dockage face a fire hazard.

Sunday afternoon, March 18th a resident tested the inflammability of the oil covering and a fire developed that destroyed his dock and sent a column of dense black smoke, fully fifty feet in diameter up over his house and all of the way across Shantee Creek before dispersing.

This has caused irreparable damage to property value and natural life in this southeastern corner of Monroe County.

(Signed) Arthur Schyllander

* * *

HURON RIVER WATERSHED

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE . . .

Room 306, Washtenaw County Building, Ann Arbor, Michigan

March 16, 1962

Mr. James McNary
M.U.C.C. Field Representative of District #2
1603 S. University Street
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Dear Mr. McNary:

I have received the notice of the District 2 meeting and the minutes of the previous meeting including the motion to invite me to the next meeting.

Unfortunately, I will be out of town Tuesday and Wednesday of next week and cannot attend the meeting. I did talk with Dan Robbins about the invitation and agree with him that mutual understanding and communication are necessary. This committee is concerned about the Detroit River and Lake Erie pollution problem, partly because we are making an effort along the Huron to improve its condition, but also because we realize that we are a small part of the larger regional problem.

There have been some fears too about the attempt by Wayne County Communities to force Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti to transport their wastes to the Wayne County disposal plant where primary treatment only is done. Not only is such a plan more costly, but a much better degree of treatment is being provided within the Huron Valley. It would seem that further questions could be raised in light of the existing pollution problems in the Detroit River. We look to the U.S. Public Health Service study, which has been requested to provide the information for solutions and the legal basis for enforcement.

Will you please express my regrets to the District and indicate that this committee is also interested in improving the condition of our water resources.

Perhaps the group is interested in the details of the program for the Huron River. I am enclosing a copy of the Water Use Policy and our annual report.

Yours truly,
(Signed) David W. Walker
Executive Secretary

* * *

STONEY POINTE COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS
DU. 2-4258 NEWPORT, MICHIGAN

July, 1961

Honorable Mayor and Council
City of Monroe
Monroe, Michigan

Gentlemen:

Meeting Thursday, July 13th. the Stoney Pointe Council of Presidents by resolution have directed that you be advised of a deplorable condition existing at the beaches along Brest Bay.

A deep silt has been deposited along the lake shore destroying the swimming areas of Stoney Pointe Beach Association and Brest Bay Grove Association.

It has been substantiated by governmental investigators that this mucky debris is waste from paper mills. Since the offending paper mills are located in your city, we are requesting that you take such action as will relieve our beach areas of this destructive polluting material.

The U.S. Corps of Engineers and the Water Resource Commission have been informed in this regard and have sampled and tested the contaminating residue.

It is entirely probably that you were unaware of the damage to the beaches on Brest Bay, especially since this area is to your north, but winds and possibly reverse currents have caused Monroe's paper mill affluent to move "upstream" to cause the problem.

Please let us know what you can and will do in this regard.

Yours truly,

(Signed) Walter McNally, President
Stoney Pointe Council of Presidents

* * *

February 6, 1962

SUBJECT: Our Approach to Riverview's Officials

TO: Public Affairs Committee Co-Chairmen and Members
All Chamber of Commerce Members
All Allen Park Business and Commercial Establishments
All Allen Park Civic, Fraternal and Religious Groups
All Members Sanitary Sewer Task Force
All Affected Communities Officials
All Builders and Their Associations
All Realtors and Their Associations
All Press Services

FROM: Walter McNally, President, Allen Park Chamber of Commerce

Expecting after more than a year of delay that a solution had been found which would provide sanitary sewer facilities to the 14 Downriver communities affected by the

Michigan State Department of Health's ban on building which was imposed June 9, 1961, we, too, were taken by surprise when the officials of the City of Riverview decided to withdraw from the D.P.W. Downriver Sanitary Sewer Program.

Riverview's officials decided to go it alone and build their own system - which is certainly their prerogative and by doing so will further postpone the eventual lifting of the building ban.

The Mayor and Council of Riverview have the reputation of being intelligent and progressive persons, individually and collectively. Were they correctly informed as to the D.P.W. Program? If not ---why not?

The building industry here is in a state of almost complete stagnation and with these thoughts in mind, the following letter was addressed to the Riverview officials:

ALLEN PARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
ALLEN PARK, MICHIGAN

February 3, 1962

Honorable Mayor and Council
City of Riverview
Riverview, Michigan

Gentlemen:

Please accept this letter as not that of an interfering outsider but as from an organization very much interested in the health and economic advancement of our whole Downriver area, including Riverview.

It is needless, perhaps to recall our feeling when you experienced that most unfortunate hepatitis outbreak a few months back. You know we are not "Johnny-come-latelys" in our concern for adequate sanitary sewer facilities throughout this entire section of Michigan.

Also, please do not consider the members of this organization or myself as persons motivated by dollar greed who will exploit for selfish advantage the vacant lands in your community or any community once the building ban is lifted. ---- We want you to feel toward us as we feel toward you - friends with a common cause and purpose.

We have among our membership, as you unquestionably have among your citizens, men being dealt a cruel blow by the stagnation of building activity - some are contractors, land owners or building material suppliers while others are electricians, plumbers, painters, plasterers, roofers, carpenters, etc. Getting these people into profitable production is our common problem.

"As you know, we anticipated difficulties in getting the D.P.W. Downriver Sewer Program accepted in two riverfront cities but ---- certainly not in Riverview. It is our sincere desire that you will restudy the sanitary sewer situation and then decide to expedite the D.P.W. program. Riverview is every bit as important in this project as any other of the communities involved - they need you.

After reconsideration it is our hope that you will announce: "WE ARE WITH YOU, TOO".

Cordially,

(Signed) Walter McNally, President
Allen Park Chamber of Commerce

Riverview is a proud new city perhaps very capable of handling its own problems.

The city officials of Riverview are not going to be impressed by bullying or pressure tactics.

By resubmitting the project it could very well be that they will act favorably--but--make sure that all the facts are presented. Certainly, they have the interests of the citizens of Riverview in mind when they act. Their first responsibility is to the residents of Riverview.

A lot is at stake now.

We urgently request that the officials who represent the proposal use exceptional tact and diplomacy.

Courtesy begets courtesy.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Walter McNally, President
Allen Park Chamber of Commerce

* * *

# EXCERPTS FROM MINUTES - WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION

May 18, 1961 meeting, page 3:

Sterling State Park beach: Mr. Eddy presented a letter to him from Dr. Haustis, dated May 15, 1961, stating that following consideration of studies made jointly by the staffs of the Water Resources Commission and the Michigan Department of Health. It has been demonstrated that the water quality at Sterling State Park beach cannot be maintained sufficiently free of contamination for protection of the public health. Dr. Haustis, further stated that no assurance could be given that the beach is now, or can be expected to be safe for swimming. Following discussion, and in compliance with Mr. Eddy's request, it was the consensus of Members that staff, in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Health, present a report at the June meeting for Commission consideration on what can be done, in addition to waste control programs and measures presently in effect or planned, to improve the water quality of Lake Erie at the beach.

June 22, 1961 meeting, page 5:

Lake Erie-Sterling State Park: Distribution was made of a 7 page report prepared by staff members of the Water Resources Commission and the Michigan Department of

Health on the sanitary quality of water in Lake Erie at the Sterling State Park beach. Factors having a bearing on present quality were reviewed: the extent that these factors will be modified by current waste control measures and programs was discussed. The conditions under which a higher water quality might be achieved were also described in the report. The report concluded by stating that when all of the measures described are in effect, no assurance could be given that a uniform quality of water consistently acceptable for recreational bathing purposes could be maintained at the beach. Arthur Elmer, Chief, Parks and Recreation Division, Department of Conservation, stated that if the water at the beach is considered unsafe for swimming by the Michigan Department of Health, an official statement to that effect should be forthcoming. He further recommended that official Michigan Department of Health signs declaring the beach unsafe for public swimming be erected. Members concurred in his request. Representative Sterling of Monroe expressed his concern about the conditions at the beach.

* * *

## The Changing Ecology of Lake Erie

Erie is a rapidly changing lake and the progressive changes are threatening gravely its value to the public for all uses. The aging process of a lake is usually slow and subtle, and frequently goes unnoticed in a lifetime of man. When lakes are used for the disposal of industrial and human wastes the aging process can be greatly accelerated as has been thoroughly documented in Lake Zurich in Switzerland and Lake Washington near Seattle over the past 50 years. Never before, however, has such a dramatic process of premature aging been detected in a lake the size of Lake Erie with its 10,000 square miles of surface area.

Any thought that Lake Erie, because of its size, is an indestructible freshwater resource, has perished. Indeed recent evidence has shown that the lake is rapidly becoming useless for things and practices that once were traditional. The urbanization and industrialization of the area surrounding Lake Erie and the Detroit River created a pollution load that has resulted in vast changes in the physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of the lake. These changes once noticeable only in the bays and shore areas have spread throughout the lake, and now are a matter of grave concern to all who have an interest in, or who depend on this freshwater resource. Bathing beaches have become unusable; preferred species of fish are no longer abundant; contamination of domestic water supplies offers an ever-increasing problem; and shore and harbor areas are becoming more difficult to keep clear for boat traffic.

Lakes age physically, chemically, and biologically. Progress of physical and chemical changes may be inconspicuous, but they are cumulative. Over 2.6 million tons of silt enter Lake Erie in a year. Gradual filling makes the lake shallower and warmer. The use of lake water as a coolant in power plants can also contribute to warming. An estimated 1.9 trillion gallons of water from the Great Lakes was used by steam-electric-generating plants in 1959. In addition, several atomic-power stations are being built on the lakes because of their great requirements for water to cool the reactors. Practically nothing is known of the consequences of increased temperatures on "thermal pollution." Some fish are attracted to the warm waters and large numbers die, and others are known to have very sensitive temperature requirements at critical life-history stages. Undoubtedly, as with other types of pollution in the lakes, the immediate effects of "thermal pollution" will be subtle, and difficult to measure.

Evidences of chemical pollution are clear-cut and impressive. Untreated and inadequately treated domestic waste of millions of people in communities bordering or near Lake Erie is entering the tributaries and marginal waters of the lake. In addition, the organic industrial waste load entering Lake Erie in 1953 was estimated to be equivalent to a population of about 900,000 by the U. S. Public Health Service. Inorganic industrial wastes, including toxic substances, have been reported in many analyses of tributary streams and lake waters. The concentrations of most dissolved chemicals have increased during the last 50 years. Calcium, magnesium, sodium, and sulfates show increases ranging from 1 to 10 ppm. Chlorides showed an increase of from 10 ppm in 1930 to 20 ppm in 1958. Total dissolved solids have increased steadily at an average rate of 1 ppm per year. Evidence exists that the concentrations of nitrogen and phosphorus compounds have doubled. Very low concentrations of dissolved oxygen in the central basin of Lake Erie have occurred during the summer in recent years--a positive indication of overenrichment resulting from the excessive introduction of organic pollutants. This condition has previously been unknown for a body of water the size of Lake Erie.

The biological consequences of increased physical and chemical pollution of Lake Erie have been spectacular. The mayfly nymph was once the most abundant fish-food organism inhabiting the bottom of Lake Erie. These clean-water organisms averaged about 400 per square meter of lake bottom for many years; today they average about 40 per square meter. The adult mayflies that once piled up under street lights and store windows are no longer evident. Pollution-tolerant worms have increased from 12 to 551 per square meter, and midge larvae (the type that can withstand low-oxygen conditions) from 56 to 299 per square meter since 1929. The bacterial load at the outlet of the Detroit River increased threefold between 1913 and 1946-48. Major changes have also occurred in the fish populations. The once abundant cisco, whitefish, and blue pike that prefer clean water have all but disappeared. The lake is no longer an ideal habitat for the walleye and yellow perch. The less desired yet more tolerant species such as white bass, sheepshead, smelt, and carp are more abundant. Reports of fish kills are becoming increasingly common.

The status of Lake Erie as a useful freshwater resource has become uncertain. As impressive as the conspicuous changes have been, there may still be more dire consequences from slow and yet undetected accumulations of the common detergents and toxic chemicals that continually enter the lake. Lake Erie can be described accurately as a dying lake, and because of the subtle cumulative effects of sewage and industrial wastes, it may be dead even before we are aware of it.

(Signed) W. F. Carbine

U. S. Bureau of Commercial Fisheries

Ann Arbor, Michigan

October 19, 1961

TO: W. D. McIntyre March 19, 1962

On this date (3-19-62) Lawrence Leibold of The Lake Erie Cleanup Committee, submitted a sample of oil and water collected at Half Way Creek, at Morin Point. This Creek is located near the Michigan-Ohio line, near Lake Erie. It was collected about 4:00 p.m., Sunday, March 18th during the time that the above mentioned body of water was afire due to a thick film of oil on the surface, which was inflammable.

The sample contained a large volume of a dark, somewhat viscous oil, which had a Flash Point of 330°F (Cleveland Open Cup) and a Fire of 355°F (Cleveland Open Cup).

The source of this oil, it developed later, was traced to the Chevrolet Plant on Alexis Road in Toledo, Ohio.

There were also other contaminations present in the sample in question, but none of which would support combustion.

(Signed) F. T. Marx
Chief Chemist

* * *

March 19, 1962

POLLUTION TRACED TO OHIO FACTORY

HALF WAY CREEK COVERED BY OIL

Erie Township--The origin of oil that covered Half Way Creek from Morin Point to a region between Lewis Ave. and Jackman Rd. about five miles away was traced yesterday to the Chevrolet transmission plant on Alexis Rd. in Lucas

County, Ohio.

Morin Point Fire Chief Harry Barnes and several of his volunteer firemen traced the oil into Ohio before calling sheriff's deputies to verify the origin of the liquid that covered the creek.

Deputy Dan Bert said the oil came from the oil-waste building of the factory. He was accompanied to the plant by Lucas County sheriff's deputies and plant officials were notified of the pollution.

John Minick, state conservation officer in the county said he investigated the situation and made a report to Lansing. "If any action is taken, it will be taken from the Lansing office," Officer Minick said.

Chief Barnes today said he found eight dead fish in the creek which was covered with from one to three inches of oil. "The creek is covered with barrels and barrels of oil and it still is coming today," he added.

The fire chief is meeting today with representatives of the Monroe County Health Department and the Erie Township supervisor.

R. S. Fulton, chief chemist at the Chevrolet plant, today said the oil in Half Way Creek apparently came from liquid which overflowed from a tank at the plant and worked its way through the ground into Silver Creek which runs into Half Way Creek. The official said he did not know how much had overflowed.

"The normal discharge of oil from the oil-waste building goes into the city sanitary sewer line," Mr. Fulton said.

Ted Ulmer of 2934 Morin Point suffered minor injuries yesterday while conducting an experiment with Morin Point volunteer firemen in the creek at the rear of his residence.

Mr. Ulmer ignited the oil on the creek waters with a blow torch and was singed about the face while fighting the fire. He refused hospital treatment.

Chief Barnes and his men took liquid from the creek in buckets and ignited it to test the potency of the oil.

A wind shift will carry the oil into Lake Erie but residue will remain in the mud and remain a menace to fish and game, Chief Barnes said.

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## MINUTES OF THE SECOND MEETING OF LAKE ERIE CLEANUP COMMITTEE

The second meeting of the Lake Erie Clean Up Committee was held on September 27, 1961, at the Newport Bank. The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Chascsa at 8:00 P.M. Chairman Chascsa opened the meeting by introducing the following people: Milton Adams of the Water Resources Commission; Don Pierce, Engineer for the State Health Dept.; Daniel Krawezyk, U. S. Public Health Service; Walter McNally, President of the Stony Pointe Council of Presidents; William C. Sterling, State Representative; Norman Blanchett, Berlin Township Supervisor; Cecil Bornstein, Mid Port Representative; Ted Hoffman, representing the Monroe Rod and Gun Club; Dr. Lawrence Frost, Mayor of the City of Monroe; Fred Noyes, National Representative of the Isaac Walton League; Leonard Chase, also representing the Isaac Walton League; Floyd Pete, President of the North Dixie Businessmen's Association. After which self-introductions were requested by Mr. Chascsa of the rest of the people in attendance.

Mr. Adams, Secretary of the Water Resources Commission, read a letter on Pollution of Sterling State Park and the reasons for posting of signs.

Donald Pierce of the Sewage Treatment Division of the Health Department spoke on conditions in surrounding areas, stressing that the present existing conditions were of vital concern to the Dept. of Health. He stated that the City of Detroit was correcting some of their pollution problems. However, this improvement will not be noticeable to any extent in this area. Other communities in the Downriver area, as well as those bordering on the Huron River as far as Ann Arbor, and those bordering on the River Raisin, and in Toledo, Ohio on the Maumee River are contributing factors to the problem we are faced with in Lake Erie.

These communities are facing the same pollution problems as we are.

With Detroit's cooperation, it is possible to still have good fishing, but almost impossible to guarantee pollution free water for drinking or recreational purposes. The quality of the water in Lake Erie may be determined in the future by the U. S. Engineering Survey. As far as Sterling State Park is concerned, the pollution prevalent there is a hazard to public health and unfit for recreational purposes. Tests taken by the State Health Dept. cannot be depended on as the tides and currents in the lake vary to such a degree that it is impossible to obtain the same results from successive tests, as the quality of the water varies daily. The State has a public trust to determine whether these waters are fit for public use.

Chairman Chascsa asked the opinion of Mr. Adams and Mr. Pierce regarding the lawsuit pending against Van Buren Township. Mr. Pierce elaborated to some extent on the case. Chairman Chascsa asked why offenders weren't fined for dumping wastes into the streams. Mr. Adams said he would welcome proof that any specific industries were guilty of this offense, that the Water Resources Comm. would investigate the complaint promptly. He also stated that, before we get too critical about other conditions, make sure your own house is clean. Chairman Chascsa explained that the only community in this area capable of properly taking care of their sewage was the City of Monroe, and that the other communities were being overlooked and had no means of obtaining funds or other assistance to alleviate their plight. How can we "clean our house" with pollution coming at us from all directions.

Daniel Krawezyk, of the U. S. Public Health Service, stated that he was attending this meeting by a request from Philip Hart, and that he would report our problem to his office in Chicago, and that he also requested a copy of the resolution that was ready by Mayor Frost. He also stated that the Federal Government might be persuaded to enter the pollution controversy on Lake Erie if interstate pollution were involved, namely Ohio.

Mr. Bornstein, representing Mid Port, U.S.A., spoke on the possibility of installation of stabilization ponds being approved by the Board of Health for the five township areas. That the time element and the assistance of getting an opinion from the Board of Health was of great concern to their organization. He was assured by Donald Pierce that the Board of Health would not hold them up if the township boards would set a date, the Board of Health would meet with them. Mr. Bornstein again asked, can you give me a definite length of time it would take us to get an answer from the State Health Dept.? Mr. Pierce stated it would be given within one weeks time.

Mayor Frost spoke on the water conditions causing loss of valuations of properties in beach areas throughout the County. That today is the time to act and not just talk about this problem. He also stated that on Sept. 26, 1960, a resolution was made by the Monroe County Board of Supervisors, stating that the pollution of waters of Lake Erie was becoming a serious problem and detrimental to wild life, boating and swimming and it was the feeling of the Board that the problem should be studied by competent authority. Also that a copy of this resolution be sent to the U. S. Public Health Service, State Water Resources Commission, State Senators and Representatives. But it seems that these authorities have not knowledge of such a resolution.

Mr. McNally, asked Mayor Frost why the City of Monroe showed no incentive to cooperate with their group on this pollution problem, and asked if the City had any authority over Industrial Pollution? Mayor Frost answered that the Water Resources Commission has complete jurisdiction.

Mr. Adams spoke on the solution that the Water Resources Commission had suggested in the past that an engineer should be employed to study this problem but it had not been followed through. Also that a legal advisor could give type of project. The representative of the Isaac Walton League stated that their organization was a defender of water, soil, and wild life. That the League has lobbyists in Washington that are well aware of our problem. We are very much interested in your problem and wish to assist. We do not know at this moment, just how we can help your committee, but I know that we will help. Perhaps you will have to send a delegation to Washington as we did. This group should always remember that man is bigger than any problem he may encounter.

State Representative, Win Sterling, spoke on his interest in this pollution campaign, and that action was needed to change the picture, that he would welcome a recommendation from the committee to be presented in Lansing.

Richard Mowers asked Mr. Pierce what steps had been taken to take care of atomic fall-out contamination of public waters? Mr. Pierce suggested that in order to obtain a sound and factual answer to contact Mr. Vanderbelde.

Norman Blanchett, Berlin Township Supervisor, offered the use of the Township Hall for the next meeting. Chairman Chascsa asked that organization working with this committee appoint a chairman to represent their members and keep them informed of the progress of this committee.

It was also requested that the County Board of Supervisors, and all other officials that could in any way be of help in solving our problem, be invited to attend our next meeting, as well as all interested groups and individuals. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 25, 1961, in the Berlin Township Hall. Mr. Chascsa thanked all workers of this committee on obtaining the many signatures and to keep up the good work. They should be mailed to Senator Hart or returned to us at the October 25th meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Irene Finck, Secretary

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## MINUTES OF THE THIRD MEETING OF LAKE ERIE CLEANUP COMMITTEE

The third meeting was held at the Berlin Township Hall, Newport, Michigan on October 25, 1961. Meeting was called to order by Chairman John Chascsa. Secretary Irene Finck read the minutes from the previous meeting. Minutes were approved as read. Letters from Senators Hart and McNamara and telegram from Fred Noyes was read.

John Chascsa then introduced the following people:

State Senator Porter

State Representative Copeland

State Representative Win Sterling

Chester Holly, Representing the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers

Paul Findlay, Air and Water Pollution official from Ohio

Mr. Howard, Area Development Division of Detroit Edison Company

Mr. Myers from the Regional Planning Commission

Doctor Barrett, Monroe County Board of Health

Wallace Benzie, State Board of Health

Wm. Braumlich, Monroe Chamber of Commerce

Geo. Hazey, Wyandotte Water Authority

J. D. Winjeart, Wayne County Road Commission

Reuben Orr, from the Isaac Walton League

Curtis Yoas, Frenchtown Township Supervisor

Norman Blanchett, Berlin Township Supervisor

Mr. Chascsa then spoke of his concern of the many cases of hepatitis that exists in Monroe County and no one seems to be doing anything to help correct this condition. He also stated that this Committee expected the officials of authority and the people to get behind this Committee and see that something is done to solve this pollution problem. We want everyone of you people here to feel that you are a part of this problem. That with our combined efforts we can arrive at a solution.

Doctor Barrett was asked to explain to the group present just what the various agencies were doing in regards to this pollution problem.

Doctor Barrett stated that just what we have here tonight is what has been needed for a long time. We need interested groups to help us correct this pollution problem. We know that more sewage plants and pipes need to be laid. Monroe County has a flatness of area. We have a good code. Amendments have been made recently. Twelve hundred (1200) Septic tanks are installed under this code a year. These septic tanks are nothing to be proud of even though they are installed under supervision. They are a poor second choice to a sewage system. I do not know the answer except to keep eternally active and keep looking for the Engineer we would like to have. We are trying to check sources of pollution. Many homes are causing pollution and they cannot correct the situation on the premises they own. I know of no way except by Municipal Sewage.

Art Neidermeier, Chairman of the Monroe County Board of Supervisors, stated that at any time the Board of Supervisors could be of assistance to this Committee - moral support, passing of Resolutions - that would help this problem the full cooperation of the Board would be given.

Senator Porter spoke on immunity - that now any municipality could be sued. He then stated the density of population in the urban areas without any provisions made for the needed water and sewage facilities is causing a great problem, but dollars can settle all problems. The big question is to get all the people to agree on how to spend these dollars. Real estate is already taxed to the limit. Pollution problem is facing us. Now, who is going to pay the bill to correct this problem. On account of this pollution, bath houses at Sterling State Park will not be built next year. In my own home town, Blissfield, Michigan, the residents are now learning, to their sorrow, of the mistake the engineers made by not bringing in both water and sewers at the same time.

Senator Copeland stated that due to his many official positions he had served on over the past years, he was well aware of our problem. He also stated that if the Water Resources Commission would live up to their duties and enforce the laws most of the problem would be solved. He explained his Bill No. 130 on Water Use and Rights. That this Bill would assign a specific group to make a comprehensive study of the situation caused by the rapid population growth, industrial expansion and ways to improve municipal sewer and water facilities. In fact, all water uses and rights. He spoke of costing Dow Chemical Company more money to purify the water to put it back into the streams than it did to pump it in from the river and bring it up again. When they found this out they started to utilize efficiency. Now this is what is going to have to be done here. Such groups as you people that are gathered here tonight, is what it takes to make these companies realize their responsibilities to the communities. You have air pollution control and the same is going to have to be enforced concerning water.

Paul Findlay, Air and Water Pollution Engineer from Ohio, stated that this pollution problem concerns us all. It will do no good for Michigan to clean up its water if Ohio doesn't and vice-versa. We will endeavor to do our part in helping this Committee achieve its purpose.

Mr. Chascsa asked if it was true that Michigan has no appropriation of funds for facilities to test water. Mr. Benzie answered that the Water Resources Commission has complete equipment for water analysis and it is located in Lansing. Also, a mobile unit travels throughout the State. We started on water pollution control in 1927.

"Then why are we unable to get reports on water pollution?" Mr. Chascsa asked.

Senator Porter answered that, "I will find out tomorrow if the Health Department and Water Resources has the needed facilities and if they haven't, you can rest assured that I will find out why".

Attorney Wm. Braunlich spoke on the concern of his Committee about the situation that exists at Sterling State Park and that their Committee would continue to study why such an answer was given concerning the posting of Sterling State Park. That perhaps this study would help determine where the neglect of duty lies.

Harold Rapson, also a member of this same Committee, spoke of his concern on such a wasting of funds as what has been spent at State Park and then to be told that Lake Erie would never be safe for swimming. As Senator Copeland stated the laws are adequate, but I fail to find very few instances where these laws are enforced.

Mr. Childs told of Monroe County having more miles of open sewage drains than any other county in the State of Michigan and until we can get a basic answer as to why such pollution problems as have been mentioned here tonight are not being taken care of by those in authority, or until they will say why they refuse to do anything about these problems, our battle should continue.

Erick Bergmann told the need for water and sewers was not only throughout the beach areas, but was needed throughout the entire county, and in his opinion, the establishing of a Department of Public Works by the Monroe County Board of Supervisors would supply the tools that were needed for small communities to correct their own troubles, and through this Department the faith and credit of the entire county would be given.

Mr. Neidermeier said that this Department does furnish the tools to work with, but what would happen in this county if we would create such a Department when at the present time there is arguments about the advisability for us to appoint the County Road Commission. This Department would require a lot of legal research. We have attorneys here with us tonight, perhaps they could make a report on the benefits of creating this D.P.W.

Mr. Hazey explained that his responsibility was to supply safe water to all residents of Wyandotte. He also suggested that this Committee proceed with caution and get all the facts. We are well aware that this is going to cost many dollars to correct a problem that should have been taken care of ten years ago. He explained the cooperative effort between U. S. and Canada under the International Joint Treaty guarding boundary waters and that the Detroit River is a boundary water. That Article IV of this Treaty stipulated that boundary waters and waters flowing across the boundary shall not be polluted on either side to the injury of health or property on the other side. That any party in one country may request the federal government of that country to refer the matter to the Commission. The prime responsibility for the control of pollution of these boundary waters rest with the State of Michigan, New York State, and the Province of Ontario. We have in Detroit a Public Health Service under this International Joint Treaty. Why isn't the objective being followed in order to protect these waters? Perhaps a fact finding committee is what is needed to present facts to the right authority. Let's get together and have our Representative look into the law and find out why the objective that was set up by this International Treaty has not been enforced. Industry in the Detroit area has done a good job in cleaning up this pollution. We must give credit where credit is due. Industry is learning of the dollars they have been losing. Let's get the facts on where this pollution is coming from and then proceed with a program.

Mr. Bornstein asked Wallace Benzie if waste stabilization lagoons could be built in small communities such as the No. 5 Township Area, and would the Health Department send a letter to Midport, U.S.A. of their approval.

Mr. Benzie assured Mr. Bornstein that he would be sent such a letter, and that these lagoons were approved for the Carleton area, and that the Board of Health had approved them for certain areas for over three years.

Mr. Myers, of the Regional Planning Commission, stated that he attended the meeting merely as an onlooker, but that it was encouraging that a local group is concerned with this problem. He suggested that this Committee get the interpretation of the law on water pollution from the attorneys or from the courts, set up a plan and follow it through.

Mr. Howard, Area Development Division of Detroit Edison, stated that there is a need for the right kind of industry, but without water and sewer facilities available we have no inducement to industry. This area has many assets, and that one day the whole down river and Monroe would be one unit.

Chester Holly, U. S. Army Corp Engineer, explained their authority only covered deposits harmful to navigation. That our problem, as he saw it, was with the Water Resources and the Board of Health.

Richard Mowers suggested that sub-committees be set up in order to investigate various phases of our problem, and also suggest remedies to the Clean-up Committee.

Representatives of the Rod and Gun Club offered the use of their Club to the Committee for future meetings. They also suggested the setting up of sub-committees.

Next meeting was scheduled to be held at the Chinchilla Ranch on November 8.

Notices to be mailed out to all Chairmen of organizations listed with this Committee of time and place of next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Irene Finck, Secretary

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# MINUTES OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF
# LAKE ERIE CLEANUP COMMITTEE

The fourth meeting was held on December 5, 1961, at Newport Bank. The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Chascsa. Secretary Irene Finck read the minutes of previous meeting. Minutes were approved as read. Letters from Senator Hart, Senator McNamara, Boyd Benedict, Water Resources Commission, Michigan Botanical Club, and Paul Findlay of Ohio were read.

Thirty persons representing Lake Shore communities from Estral Beach to Lost Peninsula were present. Also in attendance was Alfred Ming of the Ohio Fishermens Association, George Hasey, Supt. of Wyandotte Water Works, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Dey, Anthony Collino and Ralph Gaynier.

Mr. Ming was then introduced. He spoke on their interest in this pollution problem. He stated that an organized group known as the Lake Erie Resources Council of Ohio were having their annual meeting on January 8th and 9th at the Secor Hotel in Toledo and that he would like to see this Lake Erie Cleanup Committee well represented at this meeting.

George Hazey stated that there was talk of Michigan needing $50,000 to make a study of this pollution problem, but he felt that there is no need to spend all this money on a survey that will only tell us what we already know.

Mr. Chascsa stated that the purpose of this meeting was to strengthen this committee by setting up an advisory board composed of leaders throughout the whole Lake Erie Shore Line. That this committee will continue to operate until a solution to eliminate this pollution to our water wonderland has been achieved.

B. C. Pierce of Stony Pointe told of the loss of real estate values in his area and of how they had no success in asking local officials to take action on their behalf.

Melvin Currey of Woodland Beach stated that perhaps we needed more men in the State Capitol that would make the laws and also see that they were enforced.

Bert Whitney of Stony Pointe stated that the Water Resources Comm. is the office that holds the whip and wondered were they really faced with the problem of not having enough money and man power in order to do their duty.

The Federal Pollution Control Act on Boundary Waters, 1961 Amendment, was read by Secretary Irene Finck.

Mr. Parish suggested that William Collins of the Monroe News could help this group in finding a way to get a wider newspaper coverage.

Mr. Collins suggested that this committee might appoint a commission to go to Lansing and meet with the Governor.

Larry Liebold presented a map showing the complete area of location of this committee's representatives.

It was also suggested that a meeting be called with heads of industry and all interested officials in order to try and work out a solution to this pollution problem. A solution that would benefit industry, property owners and officials. That perhaps through this gathering of brain-power it could be determined where the neglect of duty lies.

John Chascsa stated that Mayor Frost of Monroe is helping all he can in this situation and is very interested. Also that industry needs clean water and does not want polluted water any more than we do. We must try to work together and not fight each other if we are ever to arrive at a solution.

George Hazey suggested that we write for a 1951 Pollution report of boundary waters.

Shelby Brooks made a motion that this group be authorized to adopt a resolution to send the Constitutional Convention asking to have the word wilful removed from the law, under (Act 117, Public Acts of 1949, Sec. 9) which now reads as follows:

"Any person who wilfully violates any provision of this act or any restricted regulation or final order of determination of the commission made thereunder shall be subject to a penalty of not to exceed $500.00 per day for each and every day of such violation, such penalty to be removed in a suit in the Circuit Court."

B. C. Pierce seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Frank Scott made a motion that an advisory board and committee heads be named or appointed. Motion seconded by Bert Whitney. Motion carried.

Ted Hoffman was appointed Vice Chairman.

Lawrence Liebold appointed Finance Chairman.

Irene Finck, Correspondence Chairman.

Erick Bergmann, Atty. William Braunlich, Atty. Ralph Mensing were named to head a resolution and legal committee.

Bert Whitney, Statistics and Miscellaneous Chairman.

Representatives of all localities to make up the advisory board.

Bert Whitney was asked to head a committee that would compose a list of all residence along the water front.

It was also suggested that Erick Bergmann be asked to gather information on establishing a County Department of Public Works.

John Chascsa suggested that the Secretary send out information of this organized group, inviting each community leader to appoint or elect the person they wish to be their representative on the advisory board. Other appointments to be named at a later date. It was also suggested that Larry Liebold contact groups who are interested in helping this committee achieve its goal. Donations are needed for stamps, stationery and office supplies in order to carry out the will of the people that have attended our previous meetings.

Shelby Brooks of Baycrest suggested the name and address of where to send these donations be given at this meeting.

John Chascsa stated that checks be made to Lake Erie Cleanup Committee and mailing address is

Mrs. Irene Finck, 3003 Eleventh Street, Detroit Beach,
Monroe, Michigan, or call CH 2-3579 or LU 6-3978.

Frank Scott asked that next meeting be held at the Monroe County Rod and Gun Club.

Motion to adjourn by Melvin Currey. Seconded by David Finck.

Respectfully submitted,
Irene Finck, Secretary

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## MINUTES OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF
## LAKE ERIE CLEANUP COMMITTEE

The fifth meeting was held at the Monroe County Rod and Gun Club on January 16, 1962. Victor Kane, president of the Rod and Gun Club, welcomed the group present. Among the two hundred in attendance were:

22 Representatives of Industry

John M. Rademacher, US chief enforcement of US Health

Grover W. Cook, Biologist of U.S. Public Health Service

Loring Oeming of Water Resources Commission

Dr. Barrett of Monroe County Health Dept.

Robert S. Howard of Area Development Division

P. E. Landback of Detroit Board of Water Commissioners

Lawrence E. Frost, Mayor of Monroe

Chester Weber, Monroe County Health Dept.

Michael Haag, Riverview Pollution Commissioner

Robert E. Kemper, Industrial Waste Inspector of Toledo

Paul Findlay, Air and Water Pollution Control Engineer of Ohio

George Hazey, Superintendent of Water Division of Wyandotte

Clyde L. Palmer, City Engineer of Detroit

Curtis Yoas, Frenchtown Township Supervisor and Board Members

Daniel Buton, Monroe County Drain Commissioner

Lewis E. Fleuelling, Monroe Chamber of Commerce,

Lake Erie Committee

W. F. Carbine of U.S. Bureau of Commercial Fisheries of Ann Arbor

Carl J. Roth, President of Michigan Outdoors

34 Cities and Villages and various organizations were represented

Many other interested citizens were also present.

Meeting was called to order by chairman John Chascsa. Secretary Irene Finck read the minutes from the previous meeting. Minutes were approved as read. Letters from various State officials were read. A letter from Senator Hart extending his greetings to the Lake Erie Cleanup Committee which read as follows:

You were pleased I hope, that we were able to work out plans for a joint federal-state action program to attack this pollution problem. Certainly your group has had a large part to play in calling attention to this need.

Larry Liebold, Treasurer, presented "Certificates of Appreciation" to the Baycrest Association, Estral Beach Village, Monroe County Rod and Gun Club for the donations they had contributed to the Lake Erie Cleanup Committee.

John Chascsa then spoke on water qualities and the needed efforts of industry and all people combined, in order to eliminate this pollution.

Vice President Ted Hoffman told of his collection of information regarding pollution over the past twenty years. His display included pictures and proof of various causes of pollution. He also passed around photos showing the damage caused by polluted waters to our ducks and wild life, also 17 samples on display showed excessive solids from various industrial outlets.

Mr. John M. Rademacher of the Public Health Service, stated that he was taking the place of Murray Stein of Washington, D.C., who is the Chairman of the Public Health Service, but was unable to attend this meeting. He told of the two-man teams from the health agency who are here investigating the Detroit river and the Lake Erie shore line.

That under the new provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, which permits the Secretary to invoke federal enforcement procedures in intrastate waters when invited to do so by a State Governor. That on December 6, 1961, Governor Swainson requested action under Section 8, of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, to assist the State of Michigan in correcting sources of pollution coming into the Detroit River and subsequently into Lake Erie.

When this investigation is completed a Conference will be held between State officials and representatives of our regional office at Chicago and Washington with Murray Stein as Chairman.

Reports of our findings and investigations will be studied and further action will then be determined.

The hearing is the second step. If the third step becomes necessary, it is the court action.

Our responsibility is to determine how much pollution exists. All available information is being taken in order to determine what is here. The reports will cover sources of pollution, Water Quality, Uses of Water, Recreation on public, and semi-public beaches, boating, swimming, fishing, and wild life.

As of now the date of the conference has not been set. We of the U.S. Public Health Service, are very happy to be of service to the people, and to be able to help out in this pollution problem.

Loring Oeming of the Water Resources Commission stated that through the calling in of the Federal agents, that his agency is being temporarily displaced. That it is estimated that the Federal investigation process will take about one to one and one-half years.

Mr. W. D. McIntyre of Monroe Auto Equipment, stated that we have problems but the Monroe Auto Equipment intends to correct them. He pledged that his industry would clean up its effluent into the river, no matter what it would cost them. He read from a written report of pollution in waters in and around Monroe. It was dated August 31, 1961. It was a report to W. D. McIntyre from Forrest T. Marx, chief chemist. Mr. McIntyre offered to John M. Rademacher the services of providing test of samples. We are pleased that the Federal government is going to help out in this problem. Let's make sure we stop this pollution. Industry can improve their income by abating this pollution. But eighteen months should not be needed to verify a fact that has already been established.

Dr. Barrett stated that he was pleased to see the interest that was being shown in trying to clean up areas where there are no sewage facilities. There are big problems in areas where homes had been built on small lots. Are these homes to be condemned, or are we to build sewers and plants. We are trying to find a way to do those things that we know should be done. It is certainly good to see that finally we are getting co-operation. Septic tanks are a poor second choice. All of Monroe County needs sewage systems. In beach areas especially, they are needed. I can see no other answer, the Health Department will help all we can. Immediate action should be taken. Plans should be presented within ninety days.

Bob Morris of Consolidated Paper Co., stated that his company has spent thousands of dollars in treating facilities in their three Monroe plants. I feel that the Water Resources Commission is a very dedicated group. We welcome the Federal boys and we will give them any help that they will require.

Clarence Hanthorn of the River Raisin Paper Co., stated that their company had spent better than one an one-half million dollars over the past ten years on this problem.

B. C. Pierce of Stony Pointe presented a copy of a letter that had been mailed to local and state officials, informing them of the pollution conditions existing along the lake shore on their beach area. The letter was dated July, 1961, from the Stony Pointe Council of Presidents. Mr. Pierce stated that he presented the letter at this meeting because he wondered if Mr. Oeming of the Water Resources Commission could tell him why over a period of six months there had been no reply to this letter, not even from the agency which Mr. Oeming represents.

Mr. Howard of the Detroit Edison Co., stated that it was quite evident that this group that is gathered here is certainly interested in making progress in their community. Now is the time to prepare for future growth.

George Hazey, Wyandotte water Superintendent reported that industry has done a good job. Let's give credit where credit is due. Every problem has its cest. That we the people are the federal government, the group present should be commended for the battle they are trying to solve.

C. W. Cook of the U.S. Health Service, stated that the wagon wheel is squeaking and the grease is going to be applied.

John Chascsa told the group present that this Lake Erie Cleanup Committee intends to go all the way. It is you people that gives this committee the strength to continue on with this campaign. We are all guilty of pollution but together we can solve this problem. We here, in Monroe, must make provisions now, in order to protect our waters, and the health of our people, along with plans for inducing industry. Mr. Chascsa informed the attendance that copies of the minutes of our third meeting and also a copy of the letter that was sent to Secretary Ribicoff, would be given to all who wanted one.

Mrs. Panza, presented a check of $20.00, from the Stony Pointe Recreation Club, stating that this donation had been raised by a group of children through the selling of papers and other projects.

Donations were also presented from Stony Pointe Council of Presidents and from Avalon Beach.

The Ladies Auxiliary from the Rod and Gun Club, served coffee and lunch which was enjoyed by all.

Respectfully submitted,
Irene Finck, Secretary

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# MINUTES OF THE SIXTH MEETING OF
# LAKE ERIE CLEANUP COMMITTEE

The sixth meeting of the Lake Erie Cleanup Committee was held at the Donald M. Squier V.F.W. Hall on February 1, 1962.

Present were John Chascsa, Chairman; Ted Hoffman, Vice President; Larry Liebold, Treasurer; and Irene Finck, Secretary. Also present were representatives of various cities, boat clubs, organizations, and associations along the Lake Erie shore line. Ralph Gaynier, Alfred Jacobs, Chester Weber, and John Hancock, all of the Monroe County Board of Health. Also present were Arthur Tillman, Vice President of Local 7-456 O.C.A.W. and Clyde L. Palmer, City Engineer of Detroit.

Minutes of previous meeting were read by Secretary. Minutes approved as read. Treasurer reported that the bank account showed $160.00. Bills presented for the cost of supplies were $30.50. B. C. Pierce of Stony Pointe made a motion that the bills as presented to be paid. Seconded by Shelby Brooks of Bay Crest. Motion carried.

A letter from J. M. Rademacher of U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, in which he stated that the Honorable Abraham A. Ribicoff, Secretary of the Dept. of Health and Welfare, has called a conference to be held at Detroit, Michigan, in the banquet room in the Veteran's

Memorial Building, 151 W. Jefferson, on March 27, 1962. That any group or organization wishing to present a statement to the conference must secure an invitation from the Michigan Water Resources Commission. A copy of the minutes of our meetings were also requested by Mr. Rademacher.

Literature from the Michigan State University Dept. of Resources Development at E. Lansing, gave information regarding a conference of Lake Associations to be held on March 7, 1962, was also read.

Mr. Bert Whitney of Stony Pointe reported that he would appreciate volunteers to assist him with the list of registered voters.

Ted Hoffman spoke about the map that was on display and drawn up by many hours of work by Larry Liebold. The map shows the locations of various organizations that are representatives of this committee along the Lake Erie shore line. Ted Hoffman stated that the Federal men will give us all something to think about and surely something to work with. He also presented a sample of effluent taken from one of the Monroe mills. The representative of this mill at the January 16th meeting stated that they were doing a good job in eliminating pollution. But this sample that was just taken today certainly proved otherwise. He will obtain samples from outlets in the River Raisin to present at the Conference.

Mr. Jacobs of the Health Dept. spoke on the disease of hepatitis and how it has effected the health and welfare of the community.

Mr. Billie K. Payne of the Rouge Recreation Boat Club stated that they were happy to be part of the Lake Erie Cleanup Committee, and were glad to be able to join in with the Committees efforts. That the Boat Club members had obtained 800 signatures on petitions addressed to Senator Hart which will be mailed at a later date. I am sure my group will be pleased to hear that the date has been set for the conference called by the Secretary of U. S. Health and Welfare.

John Hancock of Monroe County Health Department stated that there is a need for such groups as are gathered here tonight. We need to think and plan for the future. The Health Department's feeling is that most all subdivisions should have a central sewage disposal system.

The benefits of establishing a Monroe County Department of Public Works were also discussed. It was also suggested that Mr. Jewells of the Area Redevelopment Administration be contacted for information from his office regarding the financial backing need for the projects facing this area.

Mr. Diamond of North Shores Estates told of the Custer School area problem. That townships should set up master plans to show where main sewers are going to be. We should do the right thing now and not keep repeating the same wrong that has been going on over the last twenty years.

It was also discussed at the meeting the 1,800 miles of open and 250 miles of closed drainage ditches in Monroe County, one-half of which received deposits of raw sewage. That some of the raw waste flows directly into the network from homes without benefit of septic tanks. Mr. Hancock stated that a sewage system is the answer, but that steps to that end are still in the offing.

The troubles existing at Sandy Creek Drain, Golfcrest and Ida, Michigan, were also discussed. Mr. Chascsa asked if the Monroe County Health Department would investigate without a written complaint. Mr. Jacobs of the Health Dept. answered that they must have a written complaint before an investigation is made.

John Chascsa suggested that perhaps this committee should propose a resolution to be sent the Legislatures.

Mr. Shelby Brooks of BayCrest made a motion that the Lake Erie Cleanup Committee adopt a resolution recommending the Water Resources Commission and the State Health Department prohibit the operation of new industries and the establishment of new subdivisions until they have met requirements for proper treatment of sewage. B. C. Pierce seconded the motion. Motion carried. John Chascsa suggested that this resolution be sent to National and State Legislators, as well as the State agencies involved.

Milton King made a motion that this committee be represented, at the Lake Association Conference on March 7, 1962, at E. Lansing, Seconded by David Finck. Motion carried.

John Chascsa pointed out the need for all representatives of this committee to compose written information on their pollution problem in order to become part of a report of this committee, that is to be presented at the March 27th Conference. He also stated that this committee was going to request from the Water Resources Commission, an invitation to be heard at the Conference.

Mr. Diamond was asked to please send a letter to the secretary, describing the source and location of pollution of which he spoke earlier in the meeting. This information should become part of our report to the conference in Detroit, Michigan on March 27, 1962.

Donations presented at the meeting were made by Milton King of Monroe, B. C. Pierce of Stony Pointe Association and Billie K. Payne of Rouge Recreation Boat Club.

Mr. Diamond of North Shores delivered a Liberator 200 to the Committee which must be returned to the donator, Mr. Goosman, when it is of no longer use to the Lake Erie Cleanup Committee.

Motion to adjourn by Willis Webster of Woodland Beach. Seconded by Bert Whitney of Stony Pointe. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Irene Finck, Secretary

* * *

VILLAGE OF ESTRAL BEACH
Lake Erie Clean-Up Committee
P.O. Newport, Michigan

December 15, 1961

Mr. Ribicoff, Secretary
Health, Education and Welfare
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ribicoff:

Several years ago a group of irate citizens from the City of Gibralter and the Village of Estral Beach became concerned about the deplorable condition of the Detroit River and Lake Erie, and under the guidance of Mr. Hy Dahlka and Mrs. Jessie Marsh, organized a meeting of interested citizens from the adjoining communities to make a formal protest to the Michigan Water Resources Commission. This meeting turned out to be a fizzle, as had many others.

Later, at a council meeting of the Council of Estral Beach, I proposed a resolution to form a committee to combat pollution at its place of origin. The resolution passed unanimously.

From this group the present "Lake Erie Clean-up Committee" originated. I was elected to serve as Chairman of the Committee till we had achieved our aim.

After many months of listening to alibis, excuses and buck passing, the Committee decided to contact Senator Hart, Senator McNamara, Congressman Meader and our state officials, Representatives Sterling, Copeland, Petri and State Senator Elmer Porter to take action in behalf of the people.

Several meetings of public officials and state agencies as well as federal agencies and the people who were losing their agrarian rights in the affected area have shown the great need for immediate concern and action on the proper levels.

We have contacted many agencies in the course of action taken by this group and they all assure us that we are doing a tremendous job. We do realize this and do not mind the work involved if a solution is developed. So far assurances have come from all sources and all directions. Our conclusion is that you alone have the answer.

When we speak of depressed areas, what is our thinking - no jobs? slums? health hazards? lack of education? Do we consider what these conditions are created from?

Not too many years have passed since I (as a boy) swam in the River Rouge, Ecorse Creek, Detroit River, Huron River, River Raisin, Plum Creek, Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair. But now, I cannot rest well if one of my children has been in any of the streams I have mentioned. These are not the only polluted streams in Michigan as you will see from the information you will receive in this letter later on.

You might as why the concern. If the outbreak of hepatitis, typhoid, skin infections, gastroenteritis, con-junctivitis, poliomyelitis, asceptic meningitis and many other disease isn't sufficient, our efforts are in vain. Why then should we permit filth in our waters; the often crippling disease and such, when it would be a sacrilege to have these same conditions in our homes.

We pride ourselves on being a nation of intellectuals capable of directing the destinies of the world, setting the standards for others to follow, and right at our own doorstep is a problem that defies our advanced science, or perhaps we choose to regard this threat as too im mature for our advanced minds.

We talk about the Atom bomb, nuclear fallout and the threat of Russia's Kruschev. We encourage, in a panic way, the building of fallout shelters and such. These things are not any more dangerous than our number one problem and that is the pollution of our waters.

For years it has been called to the attention of various state and federal health agencies, Water Resources Commissions, etc., with the resultant investigations, meeting various agencies, both here and in Canada. The end result--always the same--(something should be done about it). But--What?

I have several articles clipped from the Detroit News, Monroe News, Toledo Blade, Detroit Free Press and from several magazines. Quote: Detroit News, December 6th--"Lake Erie Nearer Death Than You Think". Earlier in the season--Monroe Evening News--"Sterling State Park Closed, Water Polluted". All papers heralded this--"City of Ann Arbor being sued by Van Buren Township Officials", "City of Ypsilanti and Township of Ypsilanti also involved in pollution case", "Dumping of Raw Sewage into the Huron River laid to Ann Arbor". Then, "Poison chemicals followed down the River Raisin". "Unknown fish kill plagues Leamington, Ontario". "Beaches Polluted". "Sarnia accused of dumping Raw Sewage and Chemicals into Detroit River". "Lake Erie Fishermen deplore loss of commercial fishing grounds, due to pollution".

It is sickening to quote laws and regulations that are being disregarded every day and no seeming authority to enforce them.

We point to countries such as; China, South America, Viet Nam, Korea and many others whom we offer to help eliminate the same conditions that we tolerate right here at home. Certainly, we should help others to help themselves; but we should be willing to lend a hand to those of our own country men who need help. It is no more right to tax the American citizen to help outsiders than it is to let our own people shift for themselves when they need help to eliminate pollution problems and other deplorable conditions right here at home.

If steps are not taken to eliminate this unwholesome condition soon the whole Lake Erie shore line will have to be condemned as a contaminated area.

We offer as a solution:

I. Creation of a coordinating Board or authority with powers to assit or compel the Water Resources Commission to work with the Health Department in behalf of the public, whom they do presumably serve.

II. To coordinate the water resources of all states bordering on public waters to work together with the federal agencies and Canada to maintain a steady flow of sanitary and safe water into our streams.

III. Discourage industries and municipalities from dumping their untreated or raw sewage into any public streams or bodies of water.

IV. To discourage lobbying by Corporations and individuals to change and/or alter any laws pertaining to the health or welfare of the public without a public hearing and referendum vote.

V. To insist that proper sewage treatment plants and water facilities be installed in even the remotest village and assist all communities to obtain funds to do the work to the government specifications required.

VI. Insist that industries and larger cities install reclamation plants which in time will pay for themselves.

VII. To encourage the use of our chemists, biologists, engineers and technicians in the advanced study of improved technics involving industrial wastes and sewage treatment.

VIII. In reclaiming industrial wastes and sewage, the project could be sponsored jointly by government and industry. It would create new fields and still serve a dual purpose while paying for itself.

IX. To provide proper disposal depots along the rivers to unload their sewage and garbage accumulated aboard ships.

X. By making our population conscious of their responsibility to their neighbors.

Not only would we eliminate a common problem but we would also stimulate employment as well and we could continue to enjoy the God given waters once more.

As I have pointed out, many organizations, conservation, recreational, civic and health groups have complained and met with various authorities. Many hours have been given to this problem and our public enemy #1 is still with us.

I am enclosing a six months report prepared for the Macomb Nature Group by Miss Daubendiek of Mount Clemens. In it you will find the methods and speed with which this vital problem is dealt with. It will also point out the laxity with which industry is permitted to operate. You will also find that the report by the Izaak Walton League has developed a very precise report. Mr. Fred Noyes, who is the State President of the Izaak Walton League, states that their organization is continually in Washington combatting the pollution problem. I am also enclosing several clippings. Senator Hart is in receipt of many sent him by myself and others.

With the pollution problem so bad here, the cities of Wyandotte, Monroe, Flat Rock as well as all the beach areas and even Detroit is in danger of losing their water supply.

The Ohio Commercial Fishermen's Association and the

City of Toledo is fighting the same problem and has been for some time.

There will be a meeting at the Secor Hotel in Toledo, Ohio on the eighth of January, Nineteen sixty-two at eight, sponsored by the Ohio Commercial Fishermen's Association. It would be nice for you to be represented there. Doctor Danville will be the guest of honor. A report on the condition of the waters and bottom of Lake Erie will be given.

The Lake Erie Clean-Up Committee is scheduling a meeting for the middle of January and we would like for you to be present or to try to have a representative there. We are planning to invite all the industries who are involved to send a representative as well as the Health Department and Water Resources Commission.

If you should find that the suggestion of a coordinating authority meets with your approval, I feel that this group could be of further service by becoming a part of such an authority.

Our purpose:

I. To eliminate human suffering because of pollution; lessen the needless scourge of hepatitis and other diseases.

II. To encourage further scientific research of waste disposal.

III. To make available our lakes and streams, once more, for safe recreation and consumptio

IV. To create, or have created, an authority with sufficient powers to enforce all existing pollution laws as well as any that be enacted in the future.

V. To assist in any way possible to find ways and means of financing and to encourage the construction of waste disposal plants and safe water facilities for home consumption.

With hopes for a mutually acceptable conclusion of this problem, I remain

Respectfully,

(Signed) John Chascsa, Chairman

* * *

Honorable: Philip A. Hart, United States Senator,
161 Old Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator:

We, the residents and property owners of Estral Beach, Gibraltar, Monroe and Monroe County and all of the Beach areas from Toledo to Gibraltar, implore you, who are our Governmental Representatives to hear us and to take proper steps to eliminate the conditions described in this petition.

We hear of the laws covering pollution, Why aren't they complied with? How can we, "The Little Guys" protect our properties, our health and our children from the effects of the pollution in our waters?

Yes, we know there are laws controlling the pollution dating back many years, laws that give communities the right to control sewage and industrial wastes. Of what consequence are these laws? They are so many words written in the dust.

Why are the powers of the Water Resources Commission and the State and Federal Health agencies so limited? Are they Commissions in name only?

Such agencies as I have named were born of the need for such controls, have they deteriorated to the point of merely giving someone a plush government job? Are they used merely to promote political careers?

We in Monroe County are contaminated by this pollution from all sides. We get it from Detroit, River Rouge, Wyandotte, Ecorse, Riverview and Trenton, and if the wind is right from Canada and Toledo, Ohio as well.

Why are we concerned? With the water supply of the City of Monroe threatened, the possibility of drinking water for the rest of the Beach areas and inland as well threatened, development stymied, loss of wild fowl and marien life for the sportsman, the use of Lake Erie for swimming and recreation threatened, HEPATITIS caused by contaminated water on the increase, these are only some of the reasons for our concern.

We permit all sorts of debris and filth to be dumped into our waters. It is always an accident when a car load of oil, acid or other noxious material is disposed of into the river and this must be proven to have been a "WILFUL" act. But, if you litter the highways of our fair state (mostly the "Little Guy") is punishable by a $100.00 fine. Very commendable to keep our highways clean to say the least, but, is it not true that our drinking water and recreational facilities are just as important?

In the past week or so Sterling State Park was posted with POLLUTED WATER signs. Hundred of thousand of dollars spent to improve a recreation area with unsafe and filthy waters.

Also within the past week, Mary Margaret Reveil attempting to swim from Detroit to Toledo had to give up. Why? Polluted water. She may be fortunate if there are no after effects.

Hoping for favorable action in the elimination of the word "wilful" from the laws covering the dumping of materials of unsanitary content into our waters and for the enforcement of the laws now on the books, I remain,

Respectfully,

(Signed) John Chascsa, Chairman

# WATER POLLUTION COMMITTEE
# FOR ESTRAL BEACH

* * *

TO: W. D. McIntyre February 8, 1962

On this date I talked to Professor C. J. Velz, who is the head of Departmental Health at the University of Michigan. We talked at great length regarding the pollution problem in Monroe and he was well aware of the magnitude of the situation. The question of the University doing water samples was discussed and he felt that the University was reluctant to become involved. He mentioned that their function was to teach and do research and that as such there would be little or no time to take on additional work. He mentioned that the staff is limited.

Professor Velz went on to say that the U. S. Public Health Service is spending $200,000 a year for the next 5 years to correct the pollution situation in this area and strongly urged that we get in touch with this agency, who are working with the State Public Health Service. This program is to begin within the next two weeks.

Professor Velz suggested that by contacting Gordon McCollum, Director of Division of Water Supply and Pollution, Washington 25, D. C., we could no doubt work with this agency to advantage. He also mentioned that, if samples were conducted at the University, the University's name would not be used in reporting the findings, but only the individual's name who conducted the tests. In this manner the University would not be competing with consulting or engineering firms. Several members of his staff do outside laboratory work for industry, for a fee and that if we were interested, he would direct us to the proper people.

(Signed) Forrest T. Marx - Chief Chemist

* * *

## REPORT ON EFFLUENT POLLUTION FROM PAPER MILLS

On January 30th, I collected samples of effluent discharge waters from the 5 paper mills noted below. They all use the River Raisin as a disposal. The wind was from the West. The temperature was +12°F and it was fair. Several samples indicated excessive amounts of solids.

Sample No. 101 2nd Cut

Consolidated Paper Company -- South Side Plant

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Total Solids | 51.0 | Grains per Gallon |
| | 872.0 | Parts per Million |

Sample was extremely turbid and high in solids. It contained a gray material which probably was a result of titanium, which causes copious amount of precipitate. This chemical is used in the processing of paper, and no doubt caused the high solids content.

Sample No. 102

Consolidated Paper Company -- West Side Plant

Total Solids 8.5 Grains per Gallon

145.0 Parts per Million

Sample was extremely dark in color, indicating the use of carbon black pigment. There also was an oil deposit. Solids content was not extremely high but yet too high to be emptied into the river.

Sample No. 103

Monroe Paper Products Company

Total Solids 5.8 Grains per Gallon

109.0 Parts per Million

Samples showed a dark fibrous material, which is from paper stock and there was also a slight oily deposit, however, the solids were unusually low, but too high for disposal into the river.

Sample No. 104

Consolidated Paper Company --North Side Plant

Total Solids 20.8 Grains per Gallon

356.0 Parts per Million

Sample indicated the use of straw in the manufacturing of paper, because of the typical orange color. The solids content was extremely high. There was a small amount of oil present.

Sample No. 105

River Raisin Paper Company

Total Solids 15.0 Grains per Gallon

256.0 Parts per Million

Sample was reasonably free of coloring indicating the absence of straw. The solids did contain a fibrous material and there was a slight oil deposit.

The findings of the above samples, is in character, a duplication of the samples collected in August of 1961. There appeared to be a larger amount of oil present in this series than in the August samples, but generally, the results were about the same. I believe this is the information you requested January 30, 1962.

(Signed) F. T. Marx

Chief Chemist

February 6, 1962

* * *

STATE OF MICHIGAN 6/61-10

WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION

Report to the Water Resources Commission on Sterling State Park Beach.

This report is presented pursuant to the directive of the Commission as entered in the minutes of the May 18, 1961 meeting. The subject of the report is the sanitary quality of water in Lake Erie at the Sterling State Park beach. The factors having a bearing on present quality are reviewed, the extent that these factors will be modified by current waste control measures and programs is discussed, and additional measures that can be applied to achieve higher quality are described.

A. Factors bearing upon present sanitary quality.

1. Detroit Sewage Treatment Plant effluents to Detroit River. Sewage from the central city and 48 adjoining governmental units is given plain settling treatment in a primary type plant. Gradually increasing volumes of sewage have been received at the plant since its completion in 1940. Sewage flows have increased from 400 million gallons daily (m.g.d.) to 600 m.g.d. in the past 10 years. Settling facilities have been expanded at intervals to keep pace with the increasing load with the result that solids removals have been maintained at levels expected of this degree of treatment. Chlorination of the treated effluents for reduction of sewage organisms is practiced on a marginal basis and bacteriological control is poor. The index of coliform group organisms in the chlorinated

effluents is in the range of 1,000,000 M.P.N. per 100 milliliters, a reduction from a 5 to 10 million index in the settled sewage.

2. Detroit discharges of mixtures of raw sewage and storm water to Detroit and Rouge Rivers from overflow outlets on combined sewer system. The city's sewer system carries both sewage and storm water. There are 50 overflow outlets from this system, 44 to Detroit River and 6 to Rouge River. The overflow control structures, sanitary interceptors and treatment plant are designed to spill at one or more of these outlets when there is .03-.05 inches per hour or more of rainfall. Overflows can be expected to occur 80 times per year, about half of which will fall during the State Park recreational bathing season, Memorial Day to Labor Day. Concentration of sewage organisms in these spills will range from that of raw sewage downward depending upon the duration and intensity of runoff from storms.

3. Dearborn West Side Sewage Treatment Plant

effluents to Rouge River. The plant receives sewage from a portion of the city and 3 adjoining units of government. The process is designed to accomplish an intermediate degree of treatment using chemicals as an aid in settling of the sewage. Sewage flows received at the plant now average 10 m.g.d. which exceed the capacity of the process. Varying portions are bypassed directly to Rouge River and the remainder is given chemical precipitation. Treatment efficiencies based on total sewage flows are subnormal and no chlorine is applied for bacterial control.

4. Wyandotte Sewage Treatment Plant effluents to Detroit River. The plant serves 9 units of government including the City of Wyandotte. Sewage is given plain settling treatment with chlorine being fed for bacterial control. Facilities have capacity to treat 10 m.g.d. as compared with present flows of 17 m.g.d. Overload impairs settling efficiency and results in unreliable bacterial control.

5. Wayne County drain discharges of raw

sewage - storm water mixtures to Ecorse Creek and Detroit River. Two county drain systems, serving substantial sections of the downriver metropolitan area outside of Detroit, function as combined sewers carrying both surface runoff and domestic sewage. During storm periods, when the flow in the drains reaches a predetermined quantity, spills of mixtures of domestic sewage and storm water occur. The LeBlanc Drain overflows reach the Detroit River from an outlet located on the tributary Ecorse Creek. Overflows from the No. 5 Drain discharge directly to Detroit River from a pumping station located in Wyandotte. The frequency of overflows and the concentrations of sewage organisms will approximate those which occur from the Detroit combined sewer system.

6. Trenton Sewage Treatment Plant effluents to Detroit River. Sewage from the City of Trenton and Village of Gibraltar is given plain settling treatment and effluents are chlorinated. Overloading impairs performance of solids removal and causes

bacterial quality to fluctuate between wide ranges.

7. Watercourses tributary to Lake Erie. Sandy Creek enters Lake Erie at the north limits of the park. Stony and Swan Creeks enter at 2 miles and 6 miles respectively, north of the park. The sanitary quality of these waters is depreciated below that of natural waters reflecting the discharges of septic tank effluents and raw sewage from individual homes and commercial establishments. Discharges of untreated sewage originate from the sewers and drains of the Villages of Maybee, Carleton and Newport. The latter two communities discharge to Swan Creek, the former to Sandy Creek. The magnitude of these sources is numerically less than those described in the preceding paragraphs but, because of their proximity to the beaches, they are of material consequence.

8. Monroe Sewage Treatment Plant effluents to Raisin River. Treatment of sewage from the City of Monroe consists of plain

settling with chlorination of the effluents. Capacity is adequate and performance is within the range expected of this type of plant. Effective disinfection of the effluents is maintained on treated flows of 3.4 m.g.d.

9. Paper mill wastes discharged to Raisin River from Consolidated Paper Company and River Raisin Paper Division, Union Bag-Camp Corporation. Both companies are situated in the City of Monroe. Their sanitary sewage is given treatment in the city's plant. Industrial process wastes combined total 21.8 m.g.d. and are given plain settling treatment in separate company owned and operated facilities. The settled wastes enter the Raisin River approximately 1.5 miles above the river mouth. The degree of treatment provided is not sufficient to prevent conditions of oxygen exhaustion seasonally in the lower reach of the river. Disinfection of the wastes [illegible] not practiced. Tests of the discharges by methods used for determining the presence of coliform

group organisms in sewage and polluted waters yield results ranging from 23,000 to 240 million M.P.N. per 100 ml. The bacterial quality of the river reflects these values, with concentrations common to streams polluted by raw sewage. These findings cannot be accounted for by the human sewage disposal practices in the mills. A study project was initiated jointly by the Water Resources Commission and the State Health Department laboratories in 1957 in an attempt to establish the pathological significance of the organisms found in the wastes and lower river. The results did not exclude the wastes from consideration in appraising the public health significance of the bacteriological findings on the lake waters at Sterling State Park beach.

B. Extent that factors having a bearing upon sanitary quality will be modified by current waste control measures and programs.

1. A program of improvement and expansion of the Detroit Sewage Treatment Plant has been approved by the Common Council.

Among the items in this program are:

(a) Treatment to a degree higher than primary to be accomplished over a 2-year period ending in 1967. Decision has not been made on whether this will be intermediate or secondary treatment.

(b) Plant to be expanded beyond 1967 as required to accommodate increasing loads.

(c) All facilities required for treatment of the ultimate 1980 average sewage flow estimated at 850 m.g.d. to be completed in 1975.

2. Detroit is completing a pumping station project designed to improve the control of combined sewage overflows to Detroit River via Conner Creek. Construction is also under way on interceptors and control structures to provide similar improvement in control of major overflows to Rouge River from the Northwest Area sewer system. These projects are expected to be completed within the next year. No specific plans are being made and no program has been developed which would produce greater

control of overflows than will be accomplished by the above items.

3. Dearborn West Side Plant is to be abandoned and sewage connected to the Detroit system for treatment. Agreement for treatment has been consummated between Dearborn and Detroit but project is held up until the Wayne County Department of Public Works can conclude agreements with Detroit for treatment of sewage from units of government using Dearborn treatment facilities.

4. The Wyandotte Sewage Treatment Plant is to be improved under a county-wide program of relief interceptors and expanded treatment which the Wayne County Department of Public Works is currently endeavoring to finance. Construction is contingent upon agreements being entered between the Department of Public Works and the constituent units of government. If the agreements can be concluded promptly, it is estimated that construction can be started before the end of 1961 and completed within less than 2 years thereafter. The planned

improvements will be for correction of capacity deficiencies and do not propose a change in the type of treatment to one of a higher degree. Bacterial quality of the effluent will be strengthened considerably above present levels with the completion of the expansion.

5. The Trenton Sewage Treatment Plant is scheduled for expansion under the county-wide program. Project has the same status as the Wyandotte Treatment Plant expansion. Completion will enable production of effluents containing coliform densities at acceptable levels.

C. Measures to achieve a higher quality.

From the foregoing it is apparent that measures in addition to those included in current projects and programs can be applied by which the bacterial loading on the waters along the Michigan shores of Detroit River and Lake Erie can be reduced with accompanying benefit to the sanitary quality of waters at Sterling State Park beach. Much of the depreciation in this quality is attributable to continuing daily discharges of wastes bearing organisms that respond to the test for coliform group bacteria. Superimposed on these daily loadings are the intermittent overflows from combined sewers of Detroit and drains of Wayne County.

The measures deserving of primary attention in any endeavor to secure an improved quality are:

(a) Disinfection of Monroe paper mill discharges with chlorine to maintain bacterial densities at a level of 5000 M.P.N. coliforms per 100 ml. This would be warranted in the light of knowledge available to date on the characteristics of these wastes.

(b) Restoration of the bacterial quality of the tributary stream waters of Sandy, Stony and Swan Creeks to levels approaching natural background by elimination of untreated or inadequately treated domestic and commercial sewage discharges.

(c) Chlorination of the effluents from the Detroit Sewage Treatment Plant to the extent that the coliform index after initial dilution in Detroit River will not exceed a median value of 2400 M.P.N. as the result of these discharges.

(d). With the above measures in effect, there will continue to be occasions when the beach waters will be subject to impairment of quality due to combined sewer overflows. The impact of these overflows on the beach waters when all other discharges are controlled cannot be accurately predicted, but their potential to create undesirable fluctuations in quality have been demonstrated elsewhere. No feasible methods of completely controlling these sources are known. However, the problem can be moderated by taking measures to treat greater increments of combined sewage flows and thereby reduce the amount and frequency of untreated spills. The engineering and financial problems associated with this approach are of major proportions, particularly in the City of Detroit.

In conclusion, it must be recognized that, even when all of the measures are in effect as described herein, no assurance can be given that a uniform quality of water consistently acceptable for recreational bathing purposes can be maintained at the beach. The state of knowledge concerning the resistance to chlorine disinfection of viruses associated with diseases and infections raises serious doubt that present day sewage treatment methods available are sufficiently effective to provide the requisite protection. Further, questions are being raised about the public health significance of the substances remaining in the treated-chlorinated effluents which have not been resolved.

L. F. Oeming, Chief Engineer
Water Resources Commission
D. M. Pierce, Chief, Section of
Sewerage and Sewage Treatment
Division of Engineering
Michigan Department of Health

* * *

Article from the Atlantic Monthly

## AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL--AND ITS DESECRATERS

By Vance Packard

Vance Packard regards his work as social criticism, although, he adds, "others would use other labels." However controversial they have been, his books have been immensely successful; foremost among them are THE HIDDEN PERSUADERS, THE STATUS SEEKERS, AND THE WASTE MAKERS.

A friend relates that while he was driving through a lovely stretch of forest in Maine recently, he saw the car ahead, full of people, slow down and a half-open cardboard box sail out its right rear window. Eggshells, beer cans, and scraps of sandwiches and paper were spewed out along the roadside.

Another friend, a minister, became offended by the sight of discarded liquor bottles while he was driving along the otherwise beautiful beach road leading into Edgartown, Massachusetts. He began to pick up the bottles nearest the road. By the time he had reached the edge of town he had piled so many bottles into the back of his sedan that they rose above the level of the seat. People in this area who own homes along the seashore report they must, as a fairly frequent chore, scoop up and bury the oil-soaked remains of sea gulls drowned and immobilized by waste oil dumped just offshore by commercial boats.

These evidences of rampant slobbism, I must confess, do not surprise me. I live near a stretch of lonely road in Connecticut that edges the Silvermine River. A 200-year-old waterfall attracts many motorcars bearing romance-minded couples. Every few weeks I, or one of my children, as a regular task, go along this road with a bushel basket picking up the sacks of beer cans and other refuse that have been tossed into the bushes.

Last summer, to cite another case, I went strolling barefoot on a magnificent beach on Martha's Vineyard and found myself watching a father and his ten-year-old son amuse themselves. Father was photographing the terns; the son was hurling stones at bottles which he had set up in the sand. When I protested the bottle smashing, the father seemed surprised by my vehemence but suggested that his son find other amusement. I cleaned up the broken glass as best I could.

These instances are thoughtless manifestations of a spreading desecration of the American landscape today which threatens to make a cruel jest of the phrase "America the Beautiful." Refuse, even broken glass, can be cleaned up. And I suppose that the careless boobs who toss it about are so fixed in their habit patterns that we can do little to reform them. But some of the more serious man-made desecration being committed upon the U.S. landscape, often for profit, is beyond retrieval.

I have just completed a journey which took me into seventeen states. In the West my wife, Virginia, an artist, accompanied me, and we traveled by car because we were eager to get our first close look at many areas which have in years past been acclaimed for their spectacular natural beauty. Most of our excursions left us feeling frustrated and depressed. It was evident that, just in the past decade, many of these places had become so scarified by man that the natural beauty of the landscape, once breath-taking, was largely lost.

Our drive up the California coastline from Los Angeles to San Francisco was a case in point. Some of the stretches are still delightful. The lovely rolling countryside north of Buellton gives one a sense of the original West at its best. Then you approach Santa Maria. The setting is spectacular, with wildly upheaved mountains in the background. But they are difficult to see through the maze of billboards. The first mile or so of Santa Maria--the new part--is a jungle of neon signs, trailer parks, used-car lots, and look-alike development houses packed tightly together. Farther north, the once-famed El Camino Real approaching San Francisco has now become just another aisle through a gaudy, seemingly endless mart. It is lined with vendors of seat covers, ice cream, gasoline, and gifts. To the visitor, it is indistinguishable from New Jersey's Route 17, Florida's Route 1 above Fort Lauderdale, or Southern California's Long Beach Boulevard. There is one short stretch of this once-royal road north of Palo Alto where beautiful eucalyptus trees line an uncommercialized section. A friend who pointed this out to me said wistfully: "This will give you an idea of how it used to be."

Each perceptive American probably has his favorite candidates for the worst desecraters of our landscape. I would like to advance here five of my own. I will cite first those whose desecrations could be most readily corrected by an aroused citizenry, since the scars they have created are temporary or removable.

## AUTO JUNK YARDS

First I would nominate those who clutter up the areas along scenic routes with the remains of castoff motorcars or blocked-up trailers or parking lots. The state of New York spent many millions of dollars on a scenic throughway up into the Catskills. A visitor there now sees three motorcar junk yards while traveling one five-mile stretch of the road. If you take an excursion to the world-famed falls of Watkins Glen at the foot of Lake Seneca, New York, you cannot avoid seeing an auto junk yard within a few dozen yards of one of the falls. Or if you motor up the Penobscot River into rural Maine, you will find a titanic auto graveyard, covering many acres, near Old Town.

Perhaps the worst squalor created by motorcars that I have ever seen is along the supposedly scenic Route 10 crossing Northern Idaho. There, near a lovely lake outside Coeur d'Alene, one passes within a few hundred feet of a junk yard containing at least a thousand carcasses of motorcars, piled four and five high. As you continue east into the mountainous mining communities, the junked motorcars are no longer gathered together systematically into yards. They simply lie abandoned, often upside down, beside the road.

The gaudy blocked-up metallic trailers, which are starting to appear in the United States in phenomenal numbers, qualify as desecrations, I believe, when they are mass-packed in scenic areas, as they are along the shore of Lake Keuka, New York, or when they are installed singly in shocking juxtaposition on empty lots beside fine Early American homes, as is happening in a number of otherwise delightful New England communities. Some trailer owners who decide to expand their homes create startling appendages. The owner of a blocked-up trailer near New Bedford, Massachusetts, has added a two-car garage.

## BILLBOARD ADVERTISING

Outdoor advertisers who shrewdly decide that their billboards will have maximum impact in lovely rustic settings are the second group of desecraters I would nominate. Thousands of miles of rural scenery in the United States have been ruined by the jarring presence of commercial signs. The signs, of course, can be taken down if enough citizens make their anger felt.

A few of the nation's great scenic highways have been preserved from the billboard desecraters. The Merritt Parkway in Connecticut is an excellent example. On the other hand, some types of billboards have started appearing in open country along the costly Massachusetts Turnpike. In New York, the new throughway into the Catskill Mountains is in some sections virtually lined with billboards. I counted fifty-one billboards in one seven-mile stretch above Middletown. New York's advertising lobbyists were even able to prevail upon the borough of Manhattan to trim the tops off trees planted in Duffy Square so that, as author Edward Higbee put it, the "towering billboards could be seen in their four-story splendor." In Louisiana a beer advertiser employing billboards sought to ease the hostility of local drys by adding to the sign a message urging viewers to attend the church of their choice.

The new 41,000-mile interstate highway network which the federal government is helping the states construct threatens to become a billboard slum unless many more state legislatures act to prevent it. This past spring, legislators in many states found themselves caught between the pressures of the massive and affluent billboard lobby and a moderately tempting offer of free booty from the federal government. The U. S. Congress, after it was advised of a general tendency for new and expensive scenic highways to become quickly lined with commercial billboards, offered states a one half percent bonus in federal funds for highway building if the states would agree to control billboards on the highways to be built. For New York state, for example, the bonus would amount to $2 million. It is a grim commentary on our political life that state governments must be offered cash bounties to protect their own historic and scenic attractions from desecration.

As the deadline for qualifying approached, a handful of state legislatures--in Maryland, Connecticut, Kentucky, New York, North Dakota, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Washington, among others--managed to enact presumably acceptable legislation.

One advertising firm has developed a titanic new kind of billboard for use in states that do enact restrictive legislation. Called the Land-Mark Hi-Sign, it is twenty-four times as big as a conventional twenty-four-sheet billboard. The sign itself, a hundred feet wide by eighty feet high, hangs from a suspension bridge built between two great aluminum towers and can be read by motorists a third of a mile away. One such sign structure is standing at Romulus, Michigan, outside Detroit.

Roadside desecration takes forms other than billboards. In the attractive rolling country near Vacaville, California, motorists are confronted with the question "WHERE'S HARVEY'S?" spelled out in thirty-foot-high letters on a grassy hillside. Cows graze among the letters. A few hundred yards further down the road you learn the answer from another great sign blocked out on a verdant hillside: Harvey's is on Highway 50, near Lake Tahoe. It apparently has not dawned upon those responsible that these signs are atrocities in an otherwise beautiful region. Or to cite another example, a factory outside the pleasant rustic village of Monson, Massachusetts, is crowned by a vastly enlarged toilet seat. The display features this slogan: "Best Seat in the House."

It is becoming difficult to escape commercial placards in one form or another. If you journey for vacation purposes to the great public beach in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, you find that hundreds of the benches facing the ocean have small billboards attached to their backs. And just offshore you will frequently see an old airplane soar by, flying low, towing a fluttering advertisement.

Meanwhile, the Unexcelled Chemical Corporation has been demonstrating to interested marketers in various parts of the country a marvelous magic lantern called the Skyjector that can project messages hundreds of yards long against mountaintops and clouds. And, worse, two advertising journals have headlined the news that Lockheed engineers are now reasonably confident that a space-writing satellite can be developed which can spell out messages hundreds of miles long in orange letters against the evening sky.

Since the U. S. outdoor advertising industry seems incapable of more than token restraint, legislation appears to be the only hope. The federal government should flatly ban all billboards from new scenic highways built with the help of federal funds. And the states that hope to save themselves from being overwhelmed by billboards everywhere should start requiring that all persons seeking to erect billboards, in nonurban areas at least, be required to present a convincing justification to a citizens' commission attached to the state highway commissioner's office or to a special outdoor advertising board.

## ELECTRONIC ACCESSORIES

Another group of desecraters I want to cite are the people who plant utility towers or television towers or a jungle of large television aerials in settings that have been cherished for their beauty or charm. Such mechanical obstacles intruding upon scenic panoramas were a fairly constant source of frustration during our drive up the California coastline. Usually there was a utility line--and often two of them--between the highway and the nearby ocean. If the utility lines had to follow the highway, why couldn't they at least be placed on the interior side?

Let us grant that our modern way of life demands the existence of such technological accessories. But usually a little thought, and little, if any, extra cost, could produce a disposition of such accessories that would make them a less dominant part of the landscape. One frequently gets the impression that the officials locating their poles and towers are totally oblivious to, if not hostile to, aesthetic considerations.

As we approached Lake Mead from Nevada, our first sight of the lake midst brilliantly colored, starkly barren mountains was through the wires of a giant power line. This line and its towers, in fact, blacked the view for more than a mile. The pylons supporting cross-country power lines scarify an otherwise lovely landscape. They are massive. And they slash straight across the countryside, instead of following natural contours. At this writing, a power company is pressing a proposal to erect a series of high towers across the lovely countryside in the Sudbury-Wayland area of Massachusetts, once dear to Thoreau.

In Santa Barbara, California, one of the historic landmarks is the Santa Barbara Mission, located high up on the hillside behind the town. Monks work about the grounds. Their view of the bay and the Santa Cruz Island beyond was once awe-inspiring. Now monks and visitors alike must see this vista through a maze of four-tiered television aerials--many of them twenty-five feet high, and each with at least half a dozen guy wires--which jut up from recently built houses on the hillside just below the mission. Santa Barbara has its own television station (which would require only a very small aerial), but most of the residents build tremendous aerials upon their rooftops in order to try to coax in telecasts from Los Angeles, nearly a hundred miles away. These thousands of aerials give a harsh look to what has long been considered to be one of the nation's loveliest cities. Let us hope that soon our electronic wonder-workers will apply some of their vaunted ingenuity to finding less intrusive ways of bringing in television signals.

## PLANNED EYESORES

Community planners surely must be held responsible for much of the ugliness being created in our towns and cities. They have been dodging their responsibility to guide growth in a way that will make a community fully satisfying and stimulating, rather than merely habitable. These planners often seem more interested in any scheme that will give the town treasury or the town's business community quick added revenue.

The planners, in approving subdivision plans of the big developers, allow them to impose their hardly objective views on the shape the new mass-produced community is to take. The result has usually been a layout containing the maximum number of housing units that the zoning laws permit, grouped around a shopping center (which the developer leases out on stiff terms, since he can offer merchants a virtually captive clientele). The amenities of good living that ordinarily have gone with a community in times past, such as parks, playgrounds, libraries, schools, churches, and museums, are included, if at all, only grudgingly and in spots that will interfere least with the revenue-producing objectives of the developer.

In recent decades, planners have rarely given much thought to creating a psychologically satisfying focal point or heart for their city, town, or neighborhood. One night recently, I thought back over eighteen European towns and cities I visited three years ago. In every instance, the European metropolis remained vivid in my mind, because it was built around a square or a monument or a fine boulevard or a park, with public buildings usually prominent in the concept.

Americans in earlier centuries built their communities around a focal point. Witness Boston, with its Common and its Public Garden. Most New England towns and cities still have a clearly perceived heart, and many of the smaller, older-fashioned Midwestern towns such as Woodstock, Illinois, still do, too (and so do a few larger cities, such as Indianapolis). But in the majority of American cities, the heart of downtown typically is the street intersection where the largest bank faces the largest department store. Downtown Dallas, Oklahoma City, Los Angeles, Sioux City, Des Moines, Milwaukee, Birmingham, and Winston-Salem seem a blur of almost indistinguishable commercial buildings.

One also misses in the typical U. S. city a sense of graciousness or greenness. cquisition of new parkland has not kept pace with population growth, and in many cities the planners have been stealing land from existing parks for projects with higher priority, such as superhighways and parking lots. The newer the metropolitan area, the more likely it is to be short of a decent minimum of greenery. I suppose Los Angeles has a park somewhere, but I have never seen it.

Much of Denver's beauty comes from trees that were planted and parks that were established more than forty years ago. I would say, on the basis of having very recently viewed some of the jampacked, look-alike houses now springing up on the north side of Denver, that not much is being done to make the city beautiful forty years hence.

WATER POLLUTION

The most damaging desecrater of all is the polluter Raw sewage floats in the Potomac right past the monuments to Lincoln, Washington, and Jefferson. More than five thousand U. S. communities dump raw or inadequately treated wastes into the nation's waterways and are utterly indifferent to the needs and sensibilities of their downstream neighbors. Thousands of industrial plants, with equal indifference, dump their foul-smelling and often poisonous wastes into rivers. Oil is dumped into the Great Lakes, and radioactive material has been discharged into the Tennessee River. Rivers in the Idaho mining country often have a milkish appearance from pollution.

Perhaps the most befouled of all U. S. rivers is the mighty Missouri, which has aptly been called a thousand-mile-long sewer. Cities and packing houses alike have been discharging their untreated wastes into the river. According to one report, Public Health Service engineers have told of seeing floating excrement and other sewage solids. And they noted that the juncture of the Floyd and Missouri rivers "appeared almost clogged with untreated packing plant wastes. Where the water was not red with bloody wastes, it was gray with decomposing organic wastes."

The nation's aquatic wildlife has been finding our inland waters increasingly unbearable. Some months ago, ten thousand scarce canvanback and redhead ducks were destroyed on the Detroit River by the release of untreated sewage. Thousands of dead fish have turned up in the Passaic River, from which several Northern New Jersey communities had been drawing their drinking water. Fish can no longer survive in parts of New Hampshire's Merrimack, once famed for its fishing. Many of the salmon runs of the Northwest are being disrupted by the fact that the fish, in their relentless migrations up to the headwaters of streams, perish in badly polluted stretches of these streams. The Public Health Service reports finding in many parts of the country that fish taken alive from waters downstream from sewer outfalls have been sickly or dwarfed. And it reports finding hundreds of cases of complete fish kills. By "complete," it means that every fish, in stretches of water up to nineteen miles long, has perished.

Drinking water in many areas is not escaping the impact of all the waste in rivers, despite massive chlorination. Oklahoma Senator Robert Kerr states that U.S. cities now tolerate twice as much sewage in their drinking water as was considered safe only a half-dozen years ago. One specific problem which is causing concern is the widespread appearance in drinking water of a sewage-borne microscopic worm called the nematode. It appears often to be able to survive ordinary chlorination and gives tap water an earthy, musty odor. U.S. health officials found in one sampling that nematodes turned up in drinking water drawn from thirteen out of fourteen rivers.

Many cities have been indifferent to pleas from downstream neighbors to clean up water before they discharge it back into the river. Selfishly, many have seen no gain to themselves in building expensive sewage treatment plants that only benefit downstream neighbors. When Saint Joseph, Missouri, residents turned down a bond issue referendum for a proposed sewage treatment, plant, a newspaper hailed the voters for their "pioneering independence" of Washington "bureaucrats" who had been demanding that Saint Joseph stop befouling the Missouri. The U.S. government has since brought suit against the city.

Industrial pollution discharged into the nation's waterways has increased 1000 per cent in this century. Many industrialists maintain that use of rivers for dumping waste is a part of their American heritage and that they should be expected to clean up their discharged water only when it is "economically feasible." The National Association of Manufacturers has often opposed proposals that would permit the federal government to act against pollution of the nation's waterways. It wants decisions left to state and local governments, which tend to be far more responsive to the wishes of local industries.

With the great growth in leisure-time activities, millions of Americans are turning to water sports, fishing, swimming, water skiing, and skin diving. Clean water exhilarates and relaxes. The relentless disappearance of safe beaches and inviting water may well bring about a greatly increased demand for pollution control.

For one thing, there is urgent need to develop more effective treatment techniques, especially in view of the many new, persistent chemicals draining into our waterways. Experts insist we actually have not progressed very much from the water purification methods used by the ancient Romans.

With the fantastic increase in demand for water that is projected for the future, we must keep pollution in check. It seems obvious that all users of public water--municipal and industrial users alike--should be required to return the water they have borrowed in as clean a condition as it was when they diverted it, or at least as clean as technically possible.

A society as prosperous and ambitious as ours should certainly act against the desecraters. Let us start in the schools, if not the homes, to bring up youngsters who will have a decent respect for this land of ours. Let us look to the eyesores in our communities, states, and nation, and by our protests to elected officials make a start toward reducing the desecration.

Certainly we can get the junk yards off our scenic highways, especially along the new highways being built. We can oppose the outdoor-billboard lobbyists in the many state capitals which must still take action to protect the new interstate highways from desecration by billboard. The Mexican government, in a burst of political courage, has flatly outlawed billboards as distractions from the picturesque countryside.

Let us also act firmly to protect our beauty spots from the building developers and parking lot entrepreneurs. And let us demand that power lines through scenic areas go underground.

Let us work to bring back a real love for our neighborhoods by seeing that they have the variety of centers for work, play, and contemplation that make them really inviting and distinctive.

And, finally, let us cherish and protect our few remaining areas of unspoiled wilderness, if only as reminders of how we are changing our land. Historian Frederick Jackson Turner made an observation many years ago that might well be pondered today. He said: "The Western wilds, from the Alleghenies to the Pacific, constituted the richest free gift that was ever spread out before civilized man . . . . Never again can such an opportunity come to the sons of men."

Let us not further abuse this opportunity.

* * *

From Pt. Huron Times Herald--December 1, 1961

## STATE DELAYS DECISION ON MILL CREEK

LANSING--The Michigan Water Resources Commission Thursday granted the request of counsel for Yale Woolen Mills for time to file an official statement and put off until January 29 the issuance of a final order to abate pollution of Mill Creek in St. Clair County.

Wilbur S. Davidson, Port Huron, Petitioned for time to file the statement after he receives a transcript of Thursday's hearing on the pollution abatement action of the commission.

The transcript is expected to be available early next week.

Thirteen witnesses, most of them for the State, presented testimony Thursday in the continuance of a hearing which began in late August.

The witnesses included Dr. Robert S. Rowe, director of the St. Clair County Health Department, and four farmers of the Yale area who said the contaminated water in the creek makes it useless for watering livestock and thus impairs their livelihood.

The testifying farmers were Bruno Serkel, Wilson Norris, Ralph Shannon and Louis Gerlach.

Howard J. Clyne, counsel for the City of Yale, appeared for the City and presented its case.

The commission indicated at the hearing it would issue a final decision soon after the Jan. 25 meeting on an order of determination which it already has presented to bring about abatement of the creek fouling by domestic and industrial wastes.

The original order of the commission, finding the City of Yale and the woolen mills responsible for pollution of the stream, was issued early in July, 1961.

If and when the commission rules the order of determination effective, the City of Pale will have until

May 1, 1962 to submit plans for a sewage plant and until July 1, 1963 to have the treatment plant in operation.

* * *

From the Detroit Free Press, Friday, Dec. 15, 1961

HEPATITIS OUTBREAK SOARS IN WAYNE COUNTY

678 Cases Reported This Year

3 Times Higher than '60--Molner

Nineteen new cases of hepatitis were reported in Detroit and Wayne County during the last week as the infection soared at a record-breaking pace.

Dr. Joseph G. Molner, City and County health commissioner, said the number of cases reported this year is three times higher than in 1960.

To date, the highly-infectious liver disease has caused three deaths in the City and four in the County.

The total number of cases in the County, outside of Detroit, is 325 for this year, compared with 109 for all of last year and 46 for 1959.

Detroit has had 353 cases this year, compared with 118 for all of last year and 65 in 1959.

Hardest-hit community in the area is the Downriver city of Riverview, with 31 cases reported out of a population of 7,800.

Twenty-nine of the City's cases have been discovered since August. The last two were reported Dec. 3.

The State Health Department now has a suit pending in Wayne County Circuit Court to force Riverview to install a sewage treatment system.

Dr. Molner said the problem is of national scope and is part of a mysterious, but regular six-year cycle.

"The main cause seems to be polluted water or contaminated food," he said.

"One source of infection may lead to many cases as the ailment is highly contagious.

"There is no cause for alarm. And there is little that can be done to cut down the number of cases."

Dr. Molner said the typical victim is affected by the disease for about four weeks.

"The deaths usually result when other complications set in," he said.

"The disease is rarely fatal, but there is a strong possibility of permanent liver damage."

Dr. Molner said persons who have been exposed to the disease should ask their family physicians for gamma globulin injections. This reduces the chances of infection and lowers the effects of the ailment.

The hepatitis cycle seems to run in six-year waves. The last major outbreak came in the 1954-55 period.

* * *

From THE DETROIT NEWS--Sunday, January 7, 1962

## PICKLE PUZZLE PACKS A PECK OF PROBLEMS FOR IMLAY CITY

By Jack Crellin of The Detroit News Staff

IMLAY CITY, Mich., Jan. 6--Pickles, millions of them, offer a problem for this city of 2,000 persons in the lower Thumb area.

They, along with the troubles of a woolen mill at Yale some 20 miles northeast of here, point up one of the many complex industrial problems that can confront small communities.

### PICKLERS MOVE IN

The story of the pickles was unfolded here yesterday to members of the Joint Legislative Committee on Economic Growth.

It has its beginning back in 1958, the year the city built its $300,000 sewage disposal plant designed to accommodate a community of at least 3,000.

Shortly afterward the Vlasic Pickle Co., of Detroit, moved in and made arrangements to tap into the city sewage system.

### PRESSURE ON FIRM

The company invested almost $2,000,000 in modernization and expansion program of existing facilities and hired a permanent work force of almost 100. Employment was tripled in the summer months, when the pickle packing season is at its height.

The people of Imlay City were happy. Besides an annual payroll in excess of $317,000, the company was paying almost an equal amount to farmers in the area for produce.

But overlooked, at least temporarily, was the waste problem.

At the peak of the season, factory waste sometimes flowed into the sewage disposal plant at a rate that might be expected from a city of at least 10,000.

## WASTE OVERLOOKED

Taxed to capacity, the sewage plant spewed the excess into nearby Belle River.

The Michigan Department of Health and the Water Resources Commission stepped in. They ordered a solution to the waste problem.

Pressure was put on the pickle company.

Men such as James D. Morrice, city attorney, and Postmaster Earl Secor, both members of the Imlay City Development Corp., were sympathetic but explained to Herman Blum, manager of the pickle factory, that their hands were tied.

The company called in engineering experts for advice for treating the waste before it went into the sewage system.

## JULY DEADLINE

It was advised that a study of the problem would take several months. The company told the engineering firm to go ahead.

Then the Water Resources Commission set a deadline for July.

Blum told the legislators his company needed more time.

Meanwhile, unless the state agencies relent, Vlasic is holding in abeyance plans for expansion.

## SOLUTION FIRST

Said Earl Butler, Manager of maintenance for the pickle company:

"We are unwilling to invest money at this time without first getting a solution to the problem."

Senator John Stahlin (R-Belding), vice chairman of the legislative committee, promised he would see what could be done in Lansing.

In Yale this morning, the committee heard an almost identical story concerning the Yale Woolen Mills, the only manufacturing plant in the town of 1,600, and by far its biggest employer with a 300-person payroll.

## NO SEWAGE PLANT

Mayor Howard Pelton said the water resources commission has given the plant until Jan. 25 to stop dumping polluting wastes into adjacent Mill Creek.

The order followed an investigation last year which came when a plant in the nearby town of Avoca accidentally dumped poisonous wastes in the creek, Pelton said.

"Yet, without a disposal plant," Pelton said," the Wollen mill might have to close."

Howard Clyne, chairman of the St. Clair County board of supervisors, blamed the state's order against the mill on "bird-watchers who are more interested in minnows than in the economic problems of Yale."

Senator John Stahlin (R-Belding), vice chairman of the legislative committee, told residents of both towns he would see what could be done in Lansing.

* * *

From Quarterly Bulletin, State of Michigan Water Resources Commission, Number 32, Quarter Ending June 30, 1961

## MICHIGAN-ONTARIO WATER RESOURCES COMMISSIONS HOLD JOINT SESSION

International cooperation was the order of the day when the men from Michigan and Ontario met in St. Clair on May 17. This joint session was scheduled to provide members of both Commissions with an opportunity to exchange ideas and information on program activity.

Although the Ontario and Michigan W.R.C. objectives are basically the same, the methods of obtaining these objectives differ vastly. This difference is found largely in the authority given the Commissions by their respective legislatures.

* * *

STONEY POINTE

COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS

5337 Dewey Road 9/15-61 Route 2, Newport, Mich.

Dear Mr. Chascsa

RE: Lake E Beach Pollution

I am the president of this group and also the president of Allen Park's Chamber of Commerce.

In both groups we are greatly concerned by the resultant contamination created by lack of adequate sanitary and stormsewers throughout the Downriver district--as well as the Monroe area.

Expect very little cooperation from upstream officials--they have assumed an attitude of "it's your problem" and continue dumping their sewage on top of you--without regard to their neighbors welfare.

Monroe officials give lip service--and that is all.

I believe the worst source of contamination is Ecorse Creek which dumps the raw sewage of River Rouge, Ecorse, Lincoln Park, Allen Park and Taylor directly into the Detroit River after every heavy rain which overloads the sewage treatment plant in Wyandotte causing a shut off gate to close diverting the stuff from #5 Drain into the Creek.

There are many other sources of pollution of course, industrial as well as residential, which must be eliminated--if we are to save our "beach investments".

Personally, I have more faith in the State Health Dept. than in politicians and would urge you folks to consult Dr. Heustis and Don Pease, his deputy--you will find them very knowledgeable--and--perhaps holding the strongest weapon for enforcement of sanitary laws.

May I suggest that you also work closely with Curtis Yoas, Frenchtown supervisor--he is 100% and Brandon Rogers the township planning consultant has a broad view of the situation.

In order to get wider participation it could be advisable to hold your meetings on Sunday afternoons rather than week days.

If I can not participate myself we can assign many of our good workers to help you.

Just let me know and good luck.

Cordially

(Signed) Walter McNally

DU 2-4258

* * *

# REPORT
# of
# FIRST SIX MONTHS
# of
# MACOMB NATURE ASSOCIATION'S DRIVE TO CLEAN UP MILL CREEK
# (in St. Clair County)

## Index

Only official reply received by Macomb Nature Association from Michigan Water Resources Commission regarding action by Water Resources Commission 1

Why Macomb Nature Association is interested in Mill Creek 2

Petitions and other efforts 3

Answers to inquiries of conservation organizations by Water Resources Commission 4-6

Earlier complaints 6-7

1951 "Conference" 8

Most Recent Developments 9

Our Conclusions 10

From The Detroit Free Press, February 12, 1961

WOODS AND WATERS By Jack Van Coevering

A "Grass Roots"" movement to clean up pollution in Mill Creek in northern St., Clair County is shifting in high gear Sunday.

At 1:30 p.m. interested people are invited by the Macomb Nature Association to join the first of a series of eight hikes to see Mill Creek for themselves.

The creek will probably be snow-covered, and not much pollution will be evident. But the hikers will see the beauty of the streamside, the possibilities of recreation in the area, and the type of ownership along the creek.

This afternoon's hikers will gather at Mill Creek Bridge at Brockway (that's on M-19, five miles north of Emmett). Cars may park on the southwest side of the bridge. The hike will be led by Helen Shannon and Clarence Simasko. The other seven hikes will be held on alternate Sundays through May 21, with a different meeting place each succeeding road mile to the east.

MILLCREEK IS POLLUTED BY untreated sewage coming mostly from Yale, population 1,600. Yale is trying to build itself into a modern city, but its sewage system belongs to the dark ages.

Many times property owners along Mill Creek have asked for relief, but always, the State Water Resources

Commission, while admitting the pollution is there, has said it would be difficult to prove injury to public health, fish life or lawful industrial use, as the law requires. Thus pollution continues and gets worse.

Now Mill Creek is becoming a recreational area, down as far as the Black River and the State Game Area. New streamside owners are becoming more and more vocal. Among them is Miss Bertha Daubendiek of Mt. Clemens, long a leader in conservation affairs, who is spark-plugging the current drive for a clean-up.

THERE IS A GROWING resentment against inches of sludge, untreated sewage, and unsafe water. A cyanide fish kill last August caused the Water Resources Commission to advise farmers on Mill Creek to refrain from watering their cattle in the creek.

That fish kill triggered 16 petitions, signed by hundreds of property owners along Mill Creek. They asked the Water Resources Commission to "do something" about the pollution.

The drive to end this pollution gained support from the Blue Water Audubon Society, Ruby Lions Club, Ruby Mothers Club, Michigan Botanical Society, Natural Areas Council, Lapeer County Audubon Society, Huron Pointe Sportsmen's Club, Izaak Walton League of American, Michigan Division, Avoca Junior Audubon Club, Detroit Audubon Society and the Blue Water Sportsmen's Association.

Efforts to clean up Mill Creek point up two things: Michigan pollution laws are in need of revision. There is no protection in Michigan's laws for farm animals. There is no protection for the streamside owner who is deprived of stream use by pollution from upstream.

THERE IS NOT ENOUGH recognition of the recreational and esthetic value of clean water. There is no law which prohibits dumping raw sewage, per se, into a stream.

New types of uses and new industrial wastes constantly threaten our waters. Soon, for instance, Higgins Lake will be getting wastes from laundromats through Big Creek.

The other point is that public interest in clean streams must never flag. "Sleeping on their rights too long" has caused the public to lose out many a time. Along that line, the alertness of the folks along the lower Detroit River is commendable.

Duck losses highlight that situation. Last November, the village of Gibraltar did not allow oil pollution from the Chrysler engine plant to go without protest.

Protection of our waters requires continual and widespread vigilance. Mill Creek is a small stream of direct interest to a comparatively small number of people, but the importance of keeping the creek's water clean is as big as

Michigan itself.

March 20, 1961

To members of the Michigan Water Resources Commission
and other interested persons:

Macomb Nature Association's Board of Directors has authorized me to prepare a progress report of the first six months of its drive to clean up Mill Creek in St. Clair County and send to those involved. The report follows. If I use "I," it represents my personal experience or opinion, and where "we" is used, it means a composite expression resulting from numerous contacts with circulators of petitions and talks with various other persons interested in Mill Creek, including many who live on or near the creek.

This report is intended to show what efforts have been made since the fish kill last August to bring the pollution of Mill Creek to the attention of the Water Resources Commission, what response has been obtained, and what has, in the process, come to light about the way the matter has been handled by the WRC in the past.

In brief, throughout the six months, Macomb Nature Association has received only one letter from the WRC which gave any clue to what their attitude is in the matter. This was a letter, October 31, 1960, from Mr. L. F. Oeming, Chief Engineer, which stated,

"The Commission's authority to proceed on any pollution problem is limited by state law to those situations in which it can be established that the waste discharges create injury to public health, to fish life, to industrial enterprise or other lawful occupation. The fish killing in August of this year was a specific violation of the statute and legal action is being explored by the Attorney General's office. The offender in this case was a toxic solution disposed of from an industry, not the raw sewage discharges of the City. Accordingly the incident does not of itself provide sufficient grounds to proceed against the City for abatement for sewage created pollution.

"The files and records of the Commission disclose that the Mill Creek situation was considered at a meeting in August, 1951. A conference with officials of the City and the Yale Woolen Mills resulted in a decision to withhold any action in view of the very limited residential and recreational development that exists along the creek and the absence of any use of the stream for water supply. In the intervening years conditions upon which this decision was based may have changed sufficiently to justify abatement action. Our staff is therefore being directed to review the conditions and submit a report of their findings. It should be recognized, however, that any action by the Commission must be predicated upon a finding that one or more of the specific public injuries set forth in the Water Resources

Act is being created. If this is not the case the individual riparians would have to seek a remedy for any injuries they suffer through action taken on their own behalf.

"The petitions are being brought to the Commission's attention at its meeting on November 1 with a recommendation that further action await a report of the review to be made by the Commission staff."

Suggestion of a lawsuit has been made to several complainants, as will later be stated, and we wish to say here and now that we do not consider this to be the right remedy for Mill Creek. We do not feel the WRC should avoid its responsibility by this type of suggestion. As far as we are concerned, this matter is still in the court of public opinion. As I wrote to the WRC on December 13, 1960, I feel that if the individual riparians have to start their own lawsuit, then Michigan's pollution laws are either not strong enough, or they are not being enforced as they should be. It may be more difficult to try to get public officials to do what we think it is their duty to do than to start a lawsuit, but we believe a greater good for the people of Michigan will result. As we understand it, the public has an interest in the streams of Michigan, and anything affecting them is a public, not a private matter.

The following, then, presents what has transpired, as it looks from our point of view. We have had no access to the files of the WRC. We have not made any personal contacts or tried to pull any strings. We have not (as yet) asked our legislators to "do something" about the Yale situation. Everything done so far has been by private citizens voluntarily seeking to correct a situation which they believe should be corrected, working through proper channels as far as is known to them. Now we wonder just how far private citizens have to go. We judge the results so far to be highly unsatisfactory. If citizens have to do as much as we have done to get pollution corrected in Michigan, then it is no wonder many of our streams are in the disgraceful condition they are in today.

To digress for a moment, I would like to explain the reason for the interest of Macomb Nature Association in this matter.

Macomb Nature Association was organized in 1952 to do conservation education and natural history study in Macomb and St. Clair counties. I first heard of pollution at Yale in 1953. While preparing an exhibit on water conservation to go into a traveling museum of conservation and nature study, I called to the Water Resources Commission at Lansing and was told that the worst places for water pollution in southeastern Michigan were Yale and one other town. These two locations were spotlighted on a map that remained in the trailer for two years as it traveled to schools (Yale school included) in the two counties. The facts therein presented were viewed by over 50,000 persons and never challenged by any one of them. In 1958 I purchased property below Yale near Mill Creek, and on December 10, 1960 Macomb Nature Association negotiated for land on the north branch of Mill Creek, above Yale, to be maintained as a nature sanctuary. The latter had been under consideration for over a year and purchase was completed March 2, 1961.

On August 30, 1960, a "letter to the editor" appeared in the Port Huron Times-Herald lamenting the pollution of Mill Creek and referring to articles of August 11 and 12, 1960 about a fish kill in the creek.

Minutes of the meeting of the WRC of Sept 28, 1960 contain:

"Macomb Nature Association, Mt. Clemens: Letter of September 24, 1960 from the Macomb Nature Association was presented. The Association expressed particular concern over the pollution of Mill Creek, St. Clair County and at their September 12 meeting the directors approved sponsorship of a drive to eliminate pollution of Mill Creek; respectfully calling to the Commission's attention the present unfavorable condition of this stream.

"A petition signed by 12 property owners and other persons interested in recreational uses of Mill Creek, was presented, which respectfully requested the Commission to act promptly to take corrective measures to eliminate the wanton pollution of said creek."

Petitions were thereafter circulated by some 14 organizations and 40 individuals, resulting in signing of 98% of the property owners the entire length of Mill Creek (30 miles to where it flows into Black River), by hundreds of users of Mill Creek farther back on each side of the creek, and by hundreds more of recreational users of the creek from points as far distant as Avoca, Ruby, Port Huron, places in Macomb County, and Detroit, said signatures being conveyed to the Water Resources Commission in time to reach them before their meetings of November 1, 1960, December 15, 1960, January 26, 1961, February 23, 1961, and March 23, 1961, and totaling over 1000 names.

The petitions bore reprints of the articles of August 11 and 12, 1960, because (1) that fish kill was of similar kind as other fish kills that had taken place in Mill Creek over the years and (2) from the way the articles were worded, the creek water would clear in a few days and future waste pollution in the creek would stop, whereas it was a matter of common knowledge that Yale has no sewage treatment facilities and that the pollution by raw sewage and industrial waste was continuing.

Circulation of the petitions resulted in considerable publicity being given to the matter, namely, December 4, 1960, Port Huron Times-Herald, February 12, 1961, Detroit Free Press, February 15, 1961 and March 13, 1961, Port Huron Times-Herald, also an AP dispatch from Lansing on January 27, 1961, and radio dispatches over a Port Huron station on January 28 and February 21, 1961. Copies of all the newspaper articles have been sent to the Water Resources Commission.

Several organizations also adopted resolutions and forwarded them to the Water Resources Commission. I wrote several voluminous letters. I understand that many individuals likewise sent in complaints, that at least one medical doctor has complained, and that fervent appeals on behalf of a Boy Scout troop which has camped on Mill Creek the last 4 years have been sent. It has been pointed out to the WRC that the last 4 miles of the creek go through the Port Huron Game Area, a State fishing and hunting group.

Minutes of the November 1, 1960 meeting of the Commission were sent me, January 6, 1961, and contain the following:

"Mill Creek, Yale: Petitions have been received requesting Commission action on the pollution of Mill Creek at Yale. These have been acknowledged advising that the Mill Creek situation had been brought to the attention of the Commission in 1951 at which time no action was taken in view of staff inability to locate conditions in violation of Commission statute. The current complaints follow the fish killing which took place in the Creek, August 8, 1960, due to the release of a plating solution containing cyanide, through the City's sewer system. Following discussion, Mr. Ronk made a motion, supported by Mr. Baldwin, that receipt of the petitions be acknowledged and that the conditions be reviewed by the staff, a report to be submitted for Commission consideration at a subsequent meeting. Motion unanimously carried." (italics mine)

On January 24, 1961, I wrote to the WRC vigorously protesting the above underlined statement in the November 1 minutes, pointing out the language of October 31, 1960 which stated that the 1951 conference "resulted in a decision to withhold any action in view of the very limited residential and recreational development that exists along the creek and the absence of any use of the stream for water supply."

In that letter I asked that, "It is our opinion that if your staff was unable to locate any conditions in violation of the statute that it would have to be because none of them ever went near Yale." I also asked if our correspondence concerning this matter was being sent to the right person or if we should be writing to some other person on the WRC staff who might be in charge of the Yale investigation. I also asked for the date of the next WRC meeting, and for copy of the minutes of the December 15, 1960 meeting (for the bulk of the petitions were sent in to be presented at that particular meeting, and I had been told over the phone on December 1 that they would be), "as well as the minutes of any other meetings at which the Mill Creek matter is touched upon."

Thereupon has followed a complete breakdown in communication between the WRC and myself; the above letter was not answered, neither have the requested minutes been sent.

As time wore on, several conservation organizations began making inquiries in behalf of Mill Creek. Since we were receiving no information, we were grateful that they took care to inform us of the replies they received from the WRC about this matter.

Mr. Del A. Smith, member of the Common Council of the City of Detroit, when he wrote on behalf of the Izaak Walton League of America, Michigan Division, received the following reply from Mr. Milton P. Adams, Executive Secretary of the WRC, on January 10, 1961:

"It appears that the Stanley Plating Company, some years ago, started in the plating business requiring the use of cyanide. Since the Company was to use the City sewer, the new use order adopted by the Commission under Section 8(b) of our statute, ran against the City of Yale, the owner of the outlet sewer to the creek, rather than against the Company. In the few days prior to August 9, an Industrial Development Committee was engaged within the premises formerly occupied by the Stanley Plating Company, in readying the premises for occupancy by a new tenant. Unfortunately, as part of their activity, they upset or dumped deliberately, a relatively small vat of cyanide solution down the drain into the sewer, thence to Mill Creek. The result was the fish killing reported on August 9. Now this poisonous material has been displaced by stream flow. While the river is small it goes without saying that any test made at this time for the presence of cyanide would be negative--probably anywhere on from the middle of August, for that matter.

"The reason Mr. Meier /from the Attorney General's office/ is asked to consider this was to ascertain whether the Commission might have a violation to pursue, of the new use order which was adopted against the City at the time Stanley Plating Company went to work. ***

"The petitions which have been filed and which have perhaps come to your attention, deal with an entirely different subject, to wit: requesting the Commission to take action to abate the City's sewage pollution. You will realize that on a stream of this size and with a community of this size, we must have summer stream flow conditions in order to make significant tests and the finding. Mr. Oeming volunteers the April meeting date, still unscheduled, for a report to the Commission on this matter. Until the staff has completed its work and tests and can affirmatively state that at least one of the four or five tests of unlawful pollution, spelled out under Section 6 of our Act, is present, the state in its qualified authority to protect against pollution, would be powerless in the courts.

"This does not mean that pollution injurious to a riparian owner may not be present. If you will read our statute, you will note it particularly skips the protection of domestic animals such as cows and horses, and does nothing for a riparian who suffers injury to his property values as the result of the presence of a polluted stream on his premises. In other words, the Legislature has never come to the point of ruling out or modifying the old court doctrine of reasonable use of the waters of a stream or lake. If it did, there would be a lot more scrambling all around, including the metropolitan area, to do a better job than is now being done."

Whether we agree or disagree with the above statement of the law, certainly if that is the way the WRC interprets the law, then there might as well not be any. We believe livestock raising is a lawful occupation, and that the WRC which is charged with enforcing all Michigan's laws with regard to pollution, should enforce the drain law, which mentions livestock and also, odor nuisance.

There is no hint in the above letter to Mr. Smith that the attitude of the WRC currently toward Mill Creek will be any different than in the past. What that has been has just recently become more clear to us and is presented a little further on in this report.

Mr. Smith replied to the WRC on January 20 as follows:

"This is a situation which justifies the alertness of many civic-minded people and property owners. If measures are not taken to stop the pollution of Mill Creek, there is going to be an expression of public opinion much more intensified than it is at the present time, and right now it is almost at a white heat.

"I cannot, for the life of me, understand why public officials or people of good sound reasoning, would ever feel that anyone has a right to pollute streams which are here for the benefit of all mankind. Therefore, I would suggest that since the responsibility and the public obligation is plainly before us, there can be no hesitancy in starting legal proceedings to bring about the correction of the problem * * * complying with the request that emanates from a strong public mandate."

Others who complained told us they received replies as follows:

January 19, Allan Schmid, Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics, MSU, "Their staff has a survey of the area underway and a report and recommendation will be forthcoming."

February 15, Roy Osmun, Michigan United Conservation Clubs Water Resources Committee, "WRC report is they have too much territory to police for the size of their staff and they have not been able to inspect Mill Creek at a time when they could prove definite pollution injurious to public interests."

February 23, March 3 and March 6, the WRC replied as follows to various complainants, including one man who had written to Gov. Swainson, "The Commission has been kept advised of the receipt of the complaints and has instructed the staff to make surveys and collect data for a report at its April meeting. Since the effect of pollution in a stream is usually much less during the winter months, we have purposely delayed the starting of the surveys until after the ice has gone from the stream. The work is expected to start within the next few weeks."

Early in January, 1961, I learned for the first time that a Mr. Leonard Simasko, an attorney of Mt. Clemens, who was raised on Mill Creek, had been complaining about the pollution of the creek since 1952, and had been getting nowhere.

His first complaint, November 7, 1952, brought the following reply from the WRC:

"You will note that after hearing presented at the time [the conference in 1951] the commission decided to table the matter. The absence of any specific complaint of a preceding ten-year period weighed heavily in this decision.

"In addition, since no public water supplies are taken from the stream, nor are there any public recreational areas affected and the stream is of minor importance as fishing water, the damage caused by the pollution did not seem sufficient to the commission to justify invoking the statute.

"The few farmers who live along the stream are apparently satisfied with conditions inasmuch as no objections have been filed with the commission for several years. This would seem to support the contention of the city and company that conditions have improved. Your complaint is the only one of recent date despite the fact that pollution has been known to exist for at least fifteen years.

"Since it involves primarily the infringement of your individual property rights as against public interests, legal precedent indicates that private suit for abatement is the proper course to follow at present."

Mr. Simasko also made formal written complaint to the City of Yale Council in the same year, 1952. The complaint was published in the Council minutes in the Yale Expositor, but no action ever taken.

He made a complaint in person to the WRC in Lansing in the year 1954, but says he doubts a record was ever made of it, as he says he was treated "as if I were trying to steal the furniture."

He also made complaint again to the City of Yale in 1955 but action on same was tabled.

Mr. Simasko is of the opinion that Michigan's present pollution law, if enforced properly by the agency given authority to enforce it, the WRC, is good and strong enough to take care of the Yale situation. Working on the theory that if the WRC is not enforcing the law, this should be brought to the attention of the Executive branch of government, which has charge of the enforcement of the law, he has communicated with the Governor, the Attorney General, and the Director of the Michigan Department of Conservation, who is also a member of the WRC. He also contacted the National Wildlife Federation which contacted the Michigan United Conservation Clubs of Michigan, which wrote the WRC and received the astonishing reply that "According to our records, these conditions (domestic sewage discharge and industrial wastes in Mill Creek) have existed since the 1930's," and the "sudden expression of public interest is in sharp contrast to the twenty years prior to August, 1960, during which time not one complaint was registered against the Mill Creek situation." (italics supplied).

I had also been told in August, 1960, by the WRC that they had never had anyone say they were damaged by the situation.

It has recently come to our attention that a letter was written to the WRC by a resident close to Yale, September 13, 1956, as follows:

"For the past 25 years my father before me, and now myself, have been wondering when your commission was going to do something about the terrible pollution that continues year after year from the City of Yale.

"It appears that town after town around us including the St. Clair River area have been forced to build adequate sewage disposal plants but not Yale. Is there a payoff or just what is wrong there is never any action?

"The Yale Woolen Mills are now working strong and the same old dyes are rolling down the stream and our cattle have to drink somewhere. Sewage is still rolling downward also but nothing is done to stop it.

"If nothing is done to start action on this, I propose to contact the Governor as 25 years is long enough for anyone."

The reply from Mr. Adams of the WRC follows:

"We have known for some time of the sewage and industrial wastes discharged at Yale but present statutes prohibit such discharges only when they can be shown to be injurious to public health; the conducting of lawful occupations; or to fish, aquatic and wildlife. So far we have been unable to demonstrate any of the aforementioned injuries, and as a consequence, we have considered this problem to be primarily an infringement of private rights.

"I am referring your letter to our chief engineer with a request to have this problem reviewed at the earliest opportunity. A report of our findings and conclusions will be furnished you upon completion of the investigation."

Nothing further was ever heard of the "investigation" referred to.

During lengthy discussion with several complainants and others interested in water pollution problems in Michigan, and especially with the Dean of the School of Public Health at the U of Michigan, we have been advised to ask for a public hearing on this matter. To date we have not formally done so, though I have several times advised the WRC by phone and by letter that if a hearing were held, the circulators of petitions wanted to be represented and were entitled to notice. I furnished a list of circulators and stated that notice to them would be acceptable in the event a public hearing were to be held or any other action in which petitioners would wish to be represented. I was then told that "at least a conference would be held," but they would not notify individual petitioners. I then said I would accept responsibility of notifying them if only I were notified, but as stated before, I have been sent no word of any kind as to any future proceedings. We have compiled a list of over 20 persons who definitely wish to make a statement to the WRC staff regarding uses of Mill Creek and damages to them because of the pollution and who would make such a statement if called upon. There might prove to be others if a public hearing were announced.

Curious to learn how the WRC proceeds to handle its business by "conferences," I finally in the last part of February, obtained a copy of the conference of August 28, 1951. I mention it last because it has been the last to come to our attention, which was perhaps for the best, as the approach to this problem has been handled in no way to heap any abuse upon the WRC, as might have been the case had this been made public earlier, because reading the record has certainly made a few people's blood boil. It has also revealed a picture--of the WRC staff presenting plenty of evidence of conditions in violation of pollution statutes, and the Commission ignoring the same.

At the conference in 1951 were 4 WRC members who are currently the same. The Yale Woolen Mills was represented by Mr. Eugene Andrea of the City of Yale, and the City of Yale by John J. Kaatz, the major. (I am told, although the record does not show it, that Mr. Kaatz at the time was also manager of the Mill.)

No person was present to speak for the public or represent anyone who had ever complained, though the conference started with a statement by Mr. Adams, then and now Executive Secretary of the WRC, that "the discharge of sanitary sewage from the city and the industrial waste from the Yale Woolen Mills * * * combine to create conditions of gross pollution for a distance of 4 to 5 miles below the city, and have been the basis for the numerous complaints by local citizens and riparian farmers," and discloses no other reason than said complaints for the City of Yale or Yale Woolen Mills being called before the WRC at that time.

Quoting in part from the record of the conference:

Regarding the complaints, Mr. Kaatz, the Mayor, stated the City had had no complaints.

Mr. Adams stated, "I haven't been in Yale in 15 years, but I made 2 or 3 calls about that time or previous to that time and I know there was a very real odor nuisance and a disagreeable stream. We had a number of complaints and I think they are still here in the file from downstream farmers and, of course, the stream is probably too small to support fish life. To my knowledge we have not had a recent complaint from downstream residents. Some times they give up after a while. (italics mine)

Mr. Oeming stated: "There are numerous complaints on file, both from an attorney in Yale and the newspaper man back some years ago and by people downstream, a woman who owned a farm complained about the stench from the stream. We had a report from the Conservation Department of a fish killing some years ago. As matters are now fish couldn't live there. Our men inspected it again before the July meeting and they report serious odor problems and an impossibility to support any fish life."

Mr. Eddy asked: "What are the dates of those complaints?

Mr. Oeming replied: "About ten years ago."

Mr. Andrea made the statement: "At one time we used certain dyes for cottons that seemed to effect the paint of the homes downstream, but we haven't used that for several years and perhaps now that's maybe one of the reasons that you are getting no more complaints."

The conference also contains a statement of the WRC sanitary engineer that "it (the creek) certainly does smell," and Mr. Adams saying, "Who would want to live on a stream of that type?"

The action taken by the Commission was, "In view of indicated improvement in conditions over past ten years and the local nuisance nature of the problem action at this time was tabled."

## Most Recent Developments

8 farmers living on the creek composed a delegation representing property owners on Mill Creek closest to Yale, and presented a formal two page complaint to the Council of the City of Yale on March 6, 1961, asking that it be spread upon the minutes of the meeting of that date. The official minutes of the March 6 Council meeting glossed the matter over by disclosing only that "the communication from Donald Bishop be referred to the Public Works Committee."

A series of hikes to demonstrate the current interest in the creek was organized and resulted in attendances of 50, Feb. 12; 30, Feb. 26 (during the ice storm), and 130, March 12. Five more hikes are scheduled through May 21. The Yale Expositor has featured lengthy accounts of each of the hikes. The Port Huron paper sent a reporter who is making every hike (along with his wife, a Girl Scout leader, and their two children).

On March 15 and 16, 1961, a delegation of mothers speaking for the Ruby Mothers Club and other mothers along the creek, in behalf of their children, grandchildren, Girl and Boy Scouts who live on or near Mill Creek and use the creek, made a "March of Mothers" to the St. Clair Co. Health Dept. and to the Michigan State Health Dept. (Detroit News, March 17, 1961 and Port Huron Times-Herald, March 17, 1961). These mothers, as do likewise the list of 20 referred to on p.8, as well as most of the petitioners, have personal knowledge of the conditions at Yale, and the amount of swimming that is done in Mill Creek. They know that the facts if investigated speak for themselves. The report from the mothers is that the State Health Dept. staff at least seems to be in process of completing its investigation. It appears that the WRC staff, on the other hand, has not yet started to make its survey, since as of March 8 it said it "expected to get started within the next few days." As of March 8 the WRC was still writing to inquirers that "whether or not our forthcoming investigation will disclose a basis for Commission action remains to be seen." All we can say is that whether or not the WRC will, in view of the past record, ever do its public duty in this matter, likewise remains to be seen. They have certainly kept us guessing right to the very last minute!

## CONCLUSIONS

1 - We would like to demand a public hearing in this matter, but a reading of the governing statutes shows no provision for such, a public hearing on any pollution complaints as ours. Therefore, what we do demand is that when this matter is acted upon by the WRC, that the Commission MAKE A DEFINITE ORDER ON THIS MATTER, ONE WAY OR

THE OTHER--either that Yale can continue to pollute Mill Creek, or it cannot. Under the law, if we are then dissatisfied with the order, we do have a definite right to ask for a public hearing, have witnesses sworn, etc.

This matter will never again be forgotten (as in 1956), buried in files, ignored or "tabled" if we have anything to say about it.

2 - Because we feel the WRC has not acted certainly in the past in the above matter in the best interests of the People of Michigan, we are actively engaging in support of House Bill No. 130 (if all reference to the present WRC is removed therefrom). This bill was recently introduced in the State legislature to create a commission to study Michigan water resources, present and future uses thereof, and laws pertaining thereto, to work out a water policy for Michigan, and to propose changes in legislation. This bill is now before the State Affairs Committee, and we intend to see that this committee is fully informed of the WRC's handling of the Mill Creek matter, and to suggest that a proper beginning for such a commission as is proposed by House Bill No. 130 is to study the present water pollution laws of Michigan and how they are being presently enforced.

Bertha Daubendiek

for Macomb Nature Association, 191 North Rose Street,
Mt. Clemens, Michigan

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## REPORT OF THE NATURE SANCTUARIES COMMITTEE, 1953-1962
## TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MACOMB NATURE ASSOCIATION

### FIRST ELEVEN YEARS OF MACOMB NATURE ASSOCIATION

On March 17, 1962, Macomb Nature Association will celebrate the tenth anniversary of its founding as a Michigan non-profit corporation (deriving its support from dues and contributions). Actually, it was in existence a full year before its incorporation, as a Nature Study Group. Its first official name, St. Clair Metropolitan Beach Sanctuary Association, was changed in 1955 to the present form, Macomb Nature Association, a non-profit organization to promote conservation education and natural history study in Macomb County and adjoining areas, and dedicated to the preservation of local native wildlife. As a practical matter, it has devoted its efforts almost exclusively to Macomb and St. Clair Counties, Michigan.

As of this date, MNA has 155 members, about half adults and half juniors. This membership consists likewise of almost half men and boys, half women and girls. Thus it has been and probably always will be, a family-type organization, (complete, naturally, with maiden aunts and bachelor uncles). 1/5 of our members reside in St. Clair Co., 1/10 in Detroit, 8 out of state, and 2/3 in Macomb Co.

The stability of this organization is shown by the fact that 22 adults, 9 of its Founders, and an additional 13 of the Charter and First Year members, and one organization member, the Mt. Clemens Branch of the Women's National Farm and Garden Association, have been active throughout the entire ten-year period, and are still today actively engaged in its affairs.

## EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS

MNA has of course enlarged the nature horizon of its members. Some were far advanced in study in various fields when they joined; the majority, however, came in as beginners, and were assisted by veteran members--some of whom are experts in birds, trees, wild flowers, rocks and minerals, and insects, to name a few specialities--in the pursuit of their nature studies. The turnover of Junior members has been high; many are now scattered to the far corners of the world.

However, MNA has never limited its efforts to its membership. Meetings and lectures have been supplemented by series of field trips, both spring and fall, in which hundreds of persons, both members and non-members, have participated annually. Starting with a weekend nature booth at Metropolitan Beach in 1952, visited by as many as 2500 people in one day, and various educational exhibits and expositions and schools, the idea of the Traveling Museum of Conservation and Nature Study was conceived and put into action. This was a trailer equipped as a museum which traveled, with two different displays, to all the schools in the two counties. A teacher member suggested the formation of a Junior Nature Patrol, a nature club for those children who had visited the trailer museum. 1,000 boys and girls were enrolled the first year; 4,000 the second. After having been viewed by an estimated 150,000, the trailer was turned over to the Blue Water Audubon Society for use at Lakeport State Park, where it last summer had 20,000 visitors.

Experience has shown that, given the opportunity, 10% of all school children contacted will join a nature club, the only lack being of adults who have the time and patience to be leaders of such a club. Indeed, the growing trend toward outdoor recreation of all kinds makes a demand for and appreciation of this type of educational effort far in excess of the resources of an organization composed entirely of school age youngsters and working people, giving voluntarily of their free time and own pocket money.

Distribution of MNA's publications has been impressive, too. Thousands of copies of "The Birds of Metropolitan Beach," "A checklist of the Birds of SE Michigan," and "An Outdoor Guide for Macomb and St. Clair Counties," have been sold, attesting the emphasis upon self-knowledge which has made MNA a successful, vital force in its chosen area. In its tenth year, a Members' Nature Study

Course has been enthusiastically received, and other organizations are planning to pattern after this material.

The achievements--all terminating in success--of which we can be proudest are the protection of the Tern colony at Metropolitan Beach, the fight to clean up Mill Creek in St. Clair Co., and recently, the drive to ban oil drilling at State Game Areas. In connection with the latter two, 2,944 conservation-inspired miles were covered in 1961 by MNA sponsored hikers along Mill Creek, and a five-year hiking program along the Black River is well started (at the third hike, February 18, 1962, 49 showed up despite biting wind and a prediction of blizzard weather).

Another bit of good resulting from MNA's activities is that new stimulation has been provided to other conservation organizations in the State. Many of our innovations and lines of emphasis have been adopted by other organizations. There are many others of these organizations subscribing to principles of conservation, who when the need is made clear, will cooperate. Our sanctuary program should serve as an inspiration for them "to go out and do likewise."

## A TURNING POINT

MNA now is about to embark upon what can be its most significant contribution to present and future generations--by devoting the next 5 years of its efforts to the realization of a NATURE SANCTUARY PROGRAM for the two counties, Macomb and St. Clair.

This has been a dream and a talking point of the Directors of MNA for the past 8-9 years. It was given a vote of confidence by the entire membership in 1954. Now, "It's Later Than We Think." There comes a time when "educational efforts" are not enough and words must be replaced by action--in terms of dollars and cents--for influences and pressures out of our control are making it imperative that we DO SOMETHING about preserving the few remaining natural areas in those two counties, else soon the creeping hand of the city and suburbs will have reached out and destroyed even what little now remains. This is a duty we owe to the future. It is something we (conservationists) can "do for our country," and needs doing NOW. We cannot be like an ostrich, hiding our head in the sand (content with looking at colored movies of the wonders of nature) and ignoring what has happened in the last ten years, or what will probably happen in the next ten or twenty, to destroy all we count of value.

What, then, is the situation today, and the outlook for tomorrow? To begin with, it must be stated that the two counties we have come to know so well have no virgin, untouched wildernesses of the type we read about that still exist in the western parts of our country today. Practically all the land has been exploited and altered in some way at one time or another--cleared, cultivated, drained, filled, flooded, grazed, or lumbered. The closest we can come to in the way of a place that is probably in the state it was when the Indians roamed are a very few hundred feet of the Lake St. Clair shoreline south of Huron Point, and the few acres of bog at Cusic Lake. St. Clair Co., particularly was one of the finest White Pine districts, * but the destruction of the primitive forest was soon accomplished, the last piece of pine being cut about 1910. Think how wonderful it would be if somewhere during the last century, a square mile of this magnificent timber with its primeval vegetation, had been preserved! Or even 80 acres, or 40 acres, or as at Hartwick Pines State Park, even a few acres! The cost would have been small at the time, and it would now be the marvel and wonder of millions of people in the whole Detroit area! But now it is too late--once destroyed such things can never be restored. The ecologists tell us that the second growth White Pine even if left alone, will never attain the size of the pines on the uncleared forest soils, for the old root channels are gone. ** St. Clair Co., too, has been severely drained, and most of its former marsh and swampland, the home of varied plant life not found elsewhere, is gone. (The Federal government now tries to encourage farmers to make ponds for wildlife, but the results are not the same).

Outstanding wildlife feature of Macomb Co., which is mostly flat country, was its vast marsh areas along Lake St. Clair. Within the memory of some of MNA's members, all the lake shore from St. Clair Shores to New Baltimore was cattail marsh, and one couldn't get within two miles of the lake shore anywhere.*** 6 "eagle trees," nesting places for this noble bird whose decrease in numbers is so deplored, existed along Anchor Bay. **** The fame of Lake St. Clair's duck hunting was widespread. Today, after years of draining and filling in, building of homes and canals, only a few hundred acres of marsh remain and most of these seem doomed to the same fate.

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*Dodge, History of St. Clair Co. 1912

(The original marshes, together with our streams and forests, were part of a natural system for supplying and storing water and preventing floods. Alterations of the natural state result in little-understood effects. The following is quoted from "Nature In The Metropolis, A Study of Conservation in the Tri-State New York Metropolitan Region, 1960": "Wetlands, with their high in-soak value, are the heart of the watershed. ***During period of heavy rainfall they act as safety valves holding the water and preventing flooding. * * * A 6-inch rise on a 10 acre marsh places 1,500,000 gallons of water into storage. Wetlands are the cheapest built-in flood control and water supply facility in the world. * * * What is not sufficiently recognized is that society pays dearly for interrupting

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**Leopold, quoted in Milwaukee Journal, August 22, 1961 almost overnight a balance which has taken centuries to develop.* * *Where lack of conservation hurts the most is in the field of water resources. Before the advent of urban settlement, about 75 percent of the spring rains and the runoff from melting snow was absorbed by soil and vegetation. * * * In periods of excessive runoff the abundant wetlands stored water until levels subsided. What happens to this natural water management system when urban development takes place? Houses, pavements, even grass lawns, do not have anywhere near the absorptive capacity of the fields and forests they replace. The proportion of runoff which soaks in en route makes a dramatic shift from the previous 75 percent to 25 percent. * * * Swamps and marshes are often filled or drained as part of the urbanizing process, thus destroying crucial natural safety valves. The net result is the building of expensive storm sewers which take the water out to * * * (the lake*)--an utter waste. (Footnote: in the case of Macomb Co.) The water supply suffers and floods wreak havoc * * * We permit our swamps, marshes, and bogs to be dredged, drained, filled and polluted with the mistaken notion that man-made works are somehow superior to these biologic natural features which subtly perform a great, continuous task free of any capital or maintenance charge.** (Footnote: Anyone living in Macomb Co. knows that the difference between the wisdom of nature's design and the wisdom of man's design

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***Arthur J. Miller, quoted in 1953 report of Sanctuaries Com. MNA is measured in terms of many, many millions of dollars.) Concluding that, "Wetlands are in effect readymade flood control basins with enormous storage capacity and their value for this purpose must be protected," the report goes on to state that air pollution is another city problem that can be eased by conservation measures, by creating more and larger breathing spaces in the form of extensive parks.)

The biggest factor in the disappearance of wildlife in Macomb Co. has of course been the great increase in population outward from Detroit, which has slowly but surely pushed out the last strongholds of plant and animal homes from around the city limits, the suburbs, the open spaces between towns. Macomb Co. has grown tremendously and wildlife has suffered as a result. In many places the older established cemeteries with their artificial plantings are about the only cases left. For over a decade Macomb Co. was the fastest growing county in the State. From 184,000 in 1950 and 219,000 in 1952, it grew to 405,800 in 1960. Projected population figures show an estimated 855,000 by 1980! Subdivisions account for most of the area used up, but a lot has also gone into industrial development, roads, shopping centers, expansion of Selfridge Field, which now occupies, together with its housing development, a total of 8 square miles. Six years ago the Ford Proving Grounds swallowed up 6 square miles, including the highest, most

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****Lester Schmidt's father, now deceased--1954 Sanctuaries Com. report scenic part of the county. The Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority purchased the equivalent of 4 square miles for development of Stony Creek park.

Today the only place of consequence for wildlife below Hall Road is Miss Anne's Woods in Harrison Twp, a very small acreage which because of its location along the Metropolitan Beach Parkway, we have suggested be purchased by the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, which favors the idea to protect scenic values along the highway, but the asking price is terrifically high. Whole communities in the southern part of the county, except for wide expanses of lawn (wildlife deserts) now have surroundings little different from in Detroit, and very little space where wildlife can exist, much less be observed--some vacant land, perhaps, here and there, but there is little hope that this will be used in the future for anything except store or home building. The children of suburban families are especially being cheated. Even Scout leaders have a difficult time showing their Scouts the things they read about in their manuals.

We have a vivid recollection of serving as nature guides for a group of seniors from a St. Clair Shores High School. This was at Sleeper State Park, and in the fall of the year. Wild grapes, ripe for sampling, were everywhere, yet these youngsters were afraid of them--never having seen any before, thinking they were poisonous! Every bit of vegetation was new to them, representing a novel and very strange experience. What a lot these young people had missed!

Certainly the natural areas of Macomb Co. have been reduced to a mere fraction in the past ten years. More wild space in a natural condition exists in the extreme northwest part than any other, and even there, remarkably few places exist today where natural woods conditions prevail, places where Scout troops and school groups can go to see wild flowers and birds and animals.

St. Clair Co., in the next tier of counties outward from Detroit, has been and still is, much more favorably situated with regard to wildlife. Endowed with great natural beauty--the Lake Huron Shore, St. Clair River, and the Flats area, with the magnificent Black River area and picturesque Mill Creek inland, it has two State Parks, Algonac and Lakeport, and the 4000 acre Pt. Huron State Game Area. Experiencing only a 16% gain in population in the period 1950, when it was 91,000, to 1960, it has felt population pressure to a decreased degree. Nevertheless, the only place for many of the thousands of additional Macomb Co. residents to turn for their weekend recreation is to St. Clair Co., resulting in overcrowded parks, beaches, and waterways. St. Clair Co's economy is more dependent upon the tourist industry than is Macomb Co's, and making more parks for St. Clair Co. could well be considered where (and while) areas are still available.

The only two bright spots MNA has observed in the past ten years is that the State Conservation Department, with little fanfare, bought up most of the "Flats" area (Harsens Island, St. Clair Co.) for a State Game Area (lands open to public hunting under the Pittman-Robertson Act), and the Stony Creek acquisition will result in several hundreds of acres being set aside for day campers and a nature reservation, with a museum and professional naturalists available to guide groups over nature trails. If predictions are true, as at Kensington Park in Oakland Co., within a few short years, these nature trails will be crowded with Sunday traffic--afoot, of course--, such is the overwhelming increase of interest in this kind of recreation.

The great need for man to revitalize himself occasionally by contact with nature is so well recognized as to require no comment here. If it were not so, why then the great Friday night exodus from the cities?* (Footnote: "There is a great trek to the woods, waters and wetlands because nature provides the best setting for relief from the pressures of urban living. * * * Man's carelessness with nature destroys the best form of relief he has from the tensions of urban life. Natural open land is the ideal setting for rest and recreation. Once it is developed, it cannot be replaced. * * * Urban society cannot flourish without the support and balance of living things other than man. The steadily lowering density of human settlement within metropolitan areas, the unrelieved development known as urban sprawl which results from our excessive hunger for land, is a violation of this principle which may have serious consequences. * * * Lands most suitable for agriculture should remain in this use rather than become future 'match box' developments." Nature in the Metropolis, pp 53, 7 and 35.)

> "The need to preserve natural beauty is not merely a question of preserving holiday grounds for masses of people from the town. It is also a matter of preserving a main source of spiritual well-being and inspiration on which our ancestors throve, and which we are now in danger of losing forever. We are literally 'children of the earth,' and removed from her our spirit withers or runs to various forms of insanity. Unless we can refresh ourselves at least by intermittent contact with Nature, we grow awry."**

(Footnote: English historian George Macaulay Trevelyan, quoted in "The Crisis In Open Land," American Institute of Park Executives.)

Is there anything that MNA can do to help stem the tide in the preservation of local native wildlife? We are particularly concerned for our native wildflowers, which are becoming increasingly scarce in southern Michigan because their habitats have been destroyed or changed.*** (Footnote: reasons cited in "Living Beauty, Michigan's Rarest Wildflowers," a free publication of the Michigan Department of Conservation, Lansing 26, are: intensive use of land for agriculture, transportation, industry and suburban developments.) Many plants found in both counties 35 years ago no longer exist here at all. Even in the most sparsely settled townships, the grazing of farm woodlots and cutting of timber have taken a severe toll of the forest-land. If all our flowers vanish, we may as well live in perpetual winter.

> "Units of undisturbed habitat should be preserved if we are to save even a remnant of our wildflower heritage in the populous areas of the state."

(Footnote: Ibid, i.)

In a search over the past 8 years for spots relatively untouched in the two counties, we have found a number that are worthy of preservation. We have made a master plan for saving some of the ones that remain, and we hope will always remain, that contain some of Michigan's rarest wildflowers, and also, homes for animal life. They may be only pitiful relics of what once existed, but they are representative spots, in a geographical network that will insure that whatever happens in the future, within a half hour's driving distance from persons anywhere in the two counties, there will be at least 1 or 2 places where they may walk quietly and refresh their spirit by observing some of the beauties of nature.

Since the complete realization of this program is beyond the means of our members alone, and public fund-raising will be necessary, the question naturally arises, is there not a public agency (local, State or national) that can save these bits of nature for the enjoyment of future generations?

For the areas we have in mind, small areas needing complete and unsullied protection and preservation, there is not.

Public awareness of the need for open spaces and green belts, especially around large concentrations of population, seems to be growing.* (Footnote: It is said that the city of Paris is remembered with intense pleasure and affection by almost every visitor, and the chief reason Paris is so beautiful is that in the city and area surrounding it are no less than 385,000 acres of parklands open to all! The Crisis In Open Land, p 10.) Gov. Swainson recently said, "The pressing need in Michigan for recreational lands is for local and regional parks." Laurence Rockefeller's recent report as chairman of the Outdoor Recreational Resources Review Commission calls for a 40 year program to provide lands for recreation especially for the metropolitan regions, "which have the biggest population and the least space for it," asserting that, "The grand purpose of preserving, developing and assuring access to the outdoors is worthy of a nation dedicated to the well-being of its people and properly concerned about its future." But he is concerned with more than recreation and entertainment for the masses:

> "TO POSE THE PROBLEM, AS SOME DO, AS A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE LOVERS OF UNSPOILED WILDERNESS AND THOSE WHO WANT TO DEVELOP FACILITIES FOR MASSES OF PEOPLE IS TO STRADDLE THE TARGET WITHOUT HITTING IT. BOTH KINDS OF AREAS, AND OTHERS BETWEEN THESE EXTREMES, ARE NEEDED."

Just how money will be provided for these nationwide outdoor facilities for "the masses of people," which are the most expensive of all the kinds of areas mentioned by Mr. Rockefeller, is not known at this time. Some suggest that a new tax on outdoor recreational items (boats, tents, water skis, bathing suits and the like) could do for outdoor recreation fans what the Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson funds have accomplished for hunters and fishermen (by taxes on guns and ammunition, and on fishing equipment, rods and baits). But areas needed for enjoyment of this kind of outdoor activities are not what we are talking about when we speak of natural areas, or nature sanctuaries, which are places that should be preserved MOSTLY AS THEY ARE, in perpetuity.

More parks are the answer, you say? Yes, many more parks are needed, but city parks are for the most part, "Nature tamed, tended, trimmed, manicured, artificially controlled."** (Footnote: Reader's Digest, "Save a Spot of Beauty for America," January 1960.) Macomb Co. has always been woefully short-changed, in view of its population, on parks. Its only early major parks, the Dodge Park No. 8 and Utica-Rochester Area (old Bloomer State Park) were given to the State Conservation Department in 1922. Local political units have abdicated their responsibility for parks to the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority,* (Footnote: An example: The City of Mt. Clemens removed the park designation from a holding along the Clinton River in 1953, and sold it, block by block, to the highest bidder.) whose source of income is a 1/4 mill tax on all the property in its 5-county territory. A legal body created for "planning, developing, maintaining and operating parks, " it has interpreted this stated purpose for being as a mandate to provide mass recreation, and on large areas (only).

The result of the expenditure of a large amount of tax money by the H-C in Macomb Co. has been impressive, of course (over $6,000,000 on 536 A Metropolitan Beach with its 40 A macadam parking lot, $2,500,000 on the North Metropolitan Parkway, a "dream" highway which has already destroyed 350 A of the green open space it is supposed to make accessible** (Footnote: 700 A more now in H-C ownership likewise is scheduled to be similarly used for road purposes.) and $3,500,000 so far on 2,575 A Stony Creek park.)*** (Footnote: An example of the zealousness of park planners going overboard for the sake of "recreation" is the recent defilement of the East's famed Thoreau's Walden Pond, stopped by court order.)

According to the H-C's 9th Biennial Report of its Board of Commissioners, planning is a basic philosophy with the H-C (p 15). What this has resulted in is overplanning, in that only a small percentage of the land it takes over is left untouched or unchanged. In this respect it should be observed, however, as a human element, that the H-C proceeds no differently than the average owner of a new property in the country, who looks over his "raw" land, thins or cuts the trees, clears out all the natural brush (cover and food for birds and other animals), bulldozes a lawn, eradicates the cattails from the roadside ditch, plants acres of grass and cuts it regularly, paves his drive, puts in a fancy swimming pool, and then wonders where the Pheasants and Quail and Red-Wings that were hanging around when he started working, went to.

The only difference is that the H-C works on a grander scale. At Stony Creek it is flooding 600 A at a time of woodland to make an artificial lake. By means of expensive replantings, it will make the resulting vistas, (p 18) "seem to have the appearance of natural surroundings," "enhancing the beautiful."**** (Footnote: An example of the zealousness of parkplanners going overboard for the sake of "recreation" is the recent defilement of the East's famed Thoreau's Walden Pond, stopped by court order.) As a concession to those who hunger for nature experiences, a few crumbs are allowed to fall from the park planner's drawing board, and this is what the park naturalist is given to work with (or so it seems to those for whom nature unembellished appears perfect enough). The H-C is quick to point out that there is no guarantee that even these parts of their parks will be left untouched in the future, they are being held against possible future recreational needs.

(In regard to supplying the current recreational needs of Macomb Co. it may be concluded that the H-C has barely gotten off the ground. The only part of its large holdings open to the public for park use, even now, is Metropolitan Beach. We are told it is hoped to have part of Stony Creek park open to the public by 1963. We are not told whether "peaceful picnicking" will be allowed. Picnicking is enjoyed at Metropolitan Beach on a limited basis only. To this date, a Macomb County family has yet to enjoy an old-fashioned traditional picnic with stove, picnic table, and woodland setting in any H-C park in Macomb Co. The Parkway, a logical place for small roadside parks along its entire length, has always been and still is, maintained as a NO STOPPING PERMITTED expressway. Parcels of land along the Clinton River now owned by H-C are said to have been acquired principally for extending the Parkway farther north toward Stony Creek park, and not for park use.

We cannot say how the other counties feel they have fared under the H-C; one-half of H-C's assets are in this county (Macomb), yet the public benefit so far realized leaves much to be desired.

After 23 years, $12,000,000, and loss of 4161 A of land to the H-C in Macomb Co. (land cost alone was $3,000,000), all of the county's natural aspect that will be preserved by the H-C in anything approaching an untouched state are 150 A at Metropolitan Beach, and an estimated 500 A at Stony Creek.

With sorrow we read in the H-C's report (p 18) that while it professes to an "extreme sensitivity to the desires of the people we serve," it yet avowedly is not responsible for "resource preserve or land acquired to preserve * * * natural features with little or no development."

At this point we digress to point out that none of the public undeveloped lands or parks in these two counties, or throughout the State, even those places set aside for special protection in some areas of the State by the Natural Areas Council, is absolutely safe from similar "development" (or worse). Other governmental agencies often usurp property held by a different governmental unit. Examples: location of the Michigan National Guard NIKE site in the Utica-Rochester Area. The H-C may "take over" the State's Dodge Park No. 8. Suggestion has been made that Pt. Huron's Pine Grove Park be used for a city filtration plant. The Conservation Commission recently allowed oil drillers into the Pt. Huron State Game Area.* (Footnote: "An infringement on the rights of every person who loves the outdoors." Four Square Sportsmans Association. Jeddo, Michigan.) and there is a try, that pops up now and then, to have it used as a prison camp.

Near Chicago, some established nature preserves have been made into parks. Even large public institutions are guilty of encroachments. An often cited example is Cychwood Forest, near Lake Geneva, Illinois. Once held by the University of Chicago as a sanctuary, it is now a housing development.

Some bits of undisturbed land here and there in Macomb and St. Clair counties (though often not the most valuable from the standpoint of concentration of wildlife) are preserved at Scout camps (5 in the 2 counties), sportsmans club holdings, and in private lands dedicated (for 5 years at a time) under the State wildlife sanctuary law, of which there are some examples, but fewer now than 10 years ago, some in the meantime having been sold for subdivision land.

A unique situation resulted from the setting aside for use of school science classes and other groups, through interest of the school principal and the Warren Garden Club, of a 3 1/2 A woods acquired by the Warren School District for the building of the new Fuhrmann Jr. High School on 14 Mile Road. A dramatic--though not unblemished--example of the climax Beech-Maple hardwoods forest that once covered large sections of Macomb Co., it is a sharp contrast to the Beech "woods" of new trees planted at the nearby GM Tech Center. This small Warren School woods shows the 30 inch trunks often attained by the beautiful American Beech after centuries of growth; one Elm has a 4 foot trunk. A 1955 tornado ravished the woods, downing many of the giant trees, which then were removed, and Oak and Ash for boat use have been cut out, leaving few intermediate size trees. Nevertheless, it is a very fine example of the Beech-Maple association,* and, never having been grazed, it has the perfect forest floor with many wild flowers, including some on the rare list. (Footnote: We might add that our search for a truly perfect example in the two counties of this climax growth has not been rewarded. For years every woods we located would shortly thereafter be lumbered off (by a hardwoods lumber company operating out of Detroit, which we understand is now out of existence, no doubt due to lack of any promising woodland left to cut). Driving through the countryside one can see trees everywhere, but this is deceptive; a green canopy does not necessarily denote healthy woodlands. Our most difficult task has been to try to find a natural woods.)

In the face of constantly increasing population pressures, none of the holdings mentioned have the assured permanence that would be desirable. A woods resting upon the caprice of a changing school board may be in no more secure a position than was Wychwood Forest!

We have heard of two states (only) that provide a program on a State basis that can save areas such as we have in mind, Wisconsin and Virginia. (Of course there is no provision nationally for small areas) Wisconsin, giving increasing population and near disappearance of virgin lands as reasons, calls its areas Outdoor Laboratories or Scientific Areas, and grants absolute and perpetual preservation to areas as small as 3 A** up to 700. (Footnote: 3A of rare prairie pasque flowers tucked between two railroad tracks. Personal note: "Very reassuring to this child of the prairie, whose earliest memory of Iowa is going in spring out to the railroad track that ran through our farm to see the white, yellow and purple 'Wild Crocuses,' we called them." B.D.) The chairman of the Wisconsin State Board for the Preservation of Scientific Areas says,

"The only real way to preserve plants and this applies to animals also, is to preserve their habitats. Laws that prohibit the picking of certain wildflowers do not give any real protection at all."*** (Footnote: Michigan's Conservation Department also says overpicking has been a minor factor compared to other changes and disturbances. Personal note: "I remember leading a nature trip to Kelly's Woods (now a housing development just north of Eastland) and listening to the Great Horned Owl, and cautioning the children not to pick a single Spring Beauty. I might better have said to the flowers, Be Merry, for Tomorrow You Die--the bulldozers are coming!" B.D.)

The Michigan Botanical Society, an organization on a basis similar to MNA, formed a Natural Areas Council in 1954, which has made a good beginning on a program similar to Wisconsin's. Though it is advisory only and has no funds at its disposal, this Council has recommended the setting aside of a number of areas (but all already in State ownership) to remain undeveloped as permanent refuges for plant and animal life. Its work, however, has been limited mostly to State parks in the Upper Peninsula and upper part of the Lower Peninsula, though it has dipped into the southern part of the State at Warren Woods and Warren Dunes, near Chicago, and at Proud Lake and Bald Mt. Recreation Areas in Oakland Co. As stated before, the Conservation Commission, while it usually goes along with the recommendations of this Council, cannot assure absolute protection. Administrations change in the Conservation Department, the Commission itself changes from time to time, and all State lands are subject finally to the whim of the legislature. Only constant vigilance by citizen groups can effectively insure unbroken protection in the future.

Two organizations supported by private citizens are striving to do on a national scale what MNA is recommending on a local scale.

The Nature Conservancy, a national organization incorporated in 1951, calling for "Living Museums--Now or Never," has saved natural areas from virgin forests to tiny one-acre tracts. Its goal is perpetual preservation. It has acquired by gift or purchase, 54 nature preserves in 20 states, having a total area of over 10,000 acres.*

Footnote: Save a Spot of Beauty, Reader's Digest, January, 1960). For its first Michigan project, it is working with the Michigan Natural Areas Council and other groups to raise $100,000 to acquire a significant large Beech-Maple woods near Vermontville. This step is much to be applauded and has MNA's firm support, but it is to be pointed out that a woods at Vermontville (half way between population centers of Detroit and Chicago) will never be of value to as many persons as even the most insignificant Beech-Maple woods in the Detroit area.

It is good to know that such an organization as the Nature Conservancy stands by ready to help, with a loan, if necessary, if the best area we have found for preservation should be made available by its owners.** (Footnote: 120 plus acres in Bruce Twp, Macomb Co., described by Douglas Middleton, who studied it (The Jack-Pine Warbler, Vol. 35, 1957, No. 2) as having topographical features and variety of plant communities not commonly occurring in southern Michigan. It has 54 nesting species of birds, many unusual and rare, and 19 of the list of Michigan's rare wildflowers.) Without this, the amount to be raised is small enough that outside help should not be necessary. And as in many fields of public endeavor, the more local our effort is kept, the more successful it will be.

The National Audubon Society, another nation-wide conservation organization, has had a distinguished record extending over a half century of preserving wildlife sanctuaries, especially the nesting rookeries of colonizing birds in the southern states, thus saving certain species from extinction. But we feel no need to call upon the National Audubon to carry out a program which can be accomplished locally, especially when its largest affiliate club in the country, the Detroit Audubon Society, is right here where the initiative needs to be taken!

In every city of any consequence in southern Michigan there is a nucleus of nature-minded outdoor people who can take the lead to get a similar program started for their locality. These are high school and college teachers of the natural sciences, garden club members and Audubon leaders. They know the local "hot spots" of wildlife, and if, instead of deploring their disappearance, they channeled their energies into preserving some of them, the job would be soon accomplished. However, the financial burden should not fall on them entirely. If our program were directed toward 1 and 2 small places, where only our members would enjoy bird-watching and nature walks, our own resources would be sufficient and no public appeal would be necessary. It is right that fishermen and campers should be taxed to provide fishing access sites and campgrounds, if only fishermen and campers will benefit. But benefits from nature sanctuaries are universal, now and in the future, and this applies not only to the wildlife that is saved, but also to the people who wish to enjoy seeing it.

"Nature conservation must not be treated as the private hobby of a minority of enthusiasts, but must become a soundly based and generally accepted element in national policy and practical trusteeship toward the land.

"Our land and all that lives on it is the nation's basic resource. No part of the inheritance which we must pass on to our children is more vital to their health and happiness. None is in more danger of being passed on to them badly damaged. Only the fullest understanding of its nature and needs can enable us all to look after it wisely for the future. That is what conservation means."* (Footnote: Great Britain's Nature Conservancy, created by Parliament to preserve and study wild lands.)

## A NATURE SANCTUARY PROGRAM FOR MACOMB AND ST. CLAIR COUNTIES

Our selection has been preceded by a number of years of intensive study of the bird and plant life of all of the two-county area, plus much devoted "exploring" for promising prospective sanctuaries. We have been very thorough.

To render unnecessary a detailed description of the several sites, the accompanying map has been prepared, showing the major park areas of the two counties, and the location of the most desirable nature sanctuary properties, also the next most important ones to be acquired if funds can be raised. Many of these places are already familiar to the Directors from field trips and individual field work over the past 8 years.

We have studied quite carefully the nesting birds and the plants of the major park areas, and tried to supplement rather than duplicate them. Our sites will insure permanent preservation of habitats of some of the rarer plants that do not exist in any of the major parks, large as their area may be in toto.

Geographical location, especially in sections far removed from any parks at all, was considered very important, and as a matter of fact, since no townships except 3 or 4 have more than one good nature sanctuary location, anyway, with these exceptions, we have tried to find prospective nature sanctuaries in as many different townships as possible. (A few townships are so overfarmed and barren that no satisfactory place to recommend has as yet been found.

Whereas, an ideal arrangement would be to have 1 sanctuary in each of the 39 townships, practical considerations have led to a MINIMUM program that would provide for sanctuaries in only at least one-fourth of this number. If enough funds can be raised, this number could be increased to 30 or more.

Most important criteria in our selection have been:

Number and variety of nesting birds and number and kind of mammals which have been noted.

Number and variety of plants, using as a standard the list of 33 Michigan's Rare Wildflowers, prepared by the Michigan Conservation Department.

The Lynn Twp Sanctuary site (as yet unnamed) thus provides a home for 75 species of birds (3/4 of all the varieties commonly nesting in SE Michigan) and this number can be increased by 10 species if a lake is made or deep canals are cut through, to stabilize the water level. With the exception of this tract, which is former farmland reverting to marsh, none of the nature sanctuaries are to be developed or changed in any way,* (Footnote: except that a few that have been severely grazed we will replant with wildflowers rescued from flooded areas of Stony Creek park.) and most of them (wooded) have at least some other nesting birds different from the ones at Lynn Twp so that most of the nesting birds of this entire area will be well represented, even if only the MINIMUM objective is achieved.

The combination of all sites will provide for preservation of at least 27 of the 33 rarer wildflowers (the others are northern species not usually found in southern Michigan). Numbers of other plants will be protected, also, and homes for animals assured.

A final word about the ability of MNA to provide for these sanctuaries in the future, in case they are all acquired: Large endowments are not an absolute necessity (the budget as set up provides for no buildings of any kind). We can be guided by the Nature Conservancy's experience, which uses fencing only as a last resort, and reports that the annual maintenance of these areas runs to less than 50 cents per acre per year, which our membership dues can carry if necessary. These properties are tax exempt under Michigan law, once clear title has been obtained.

In conclusion, we feel that the crying need for this program in an area so near the more than 4,000,000 people in the greater metropolitan area of Detroit is that, although the sum necessary to do an adequate MINIMUM job on this program is very modest, and with 2, 3, or 4 times that amount a much better job could be done, yet the sad fact is that IF 25 or 100 TIMES THAT AMOUNT were suddenly to be turned over to us to spend as we would, we could do little better--there just aren't enough worthwhile nature properties left anywhere in the two counties.

## RECOMMENDATIONS TO MNA'S BD OF DIRECTORS

1. That the program as outlined in the above report and map be adopted as of March 3, 1962, and be announced to our members and to the public during National

Wildlife Week, March 17, 1962.

2. That the program should be of 5 years' duration and should be planned to raise a MINIMUM of $32,000 for 5-10 properties.

3. That this be financed as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Assets of MNA already pd on Lynn Twp Sanctuary purchase from the Nature Sanctuary Fund of MNA | $ 1,275.00 |
| Other cash available | 600.00 |
| Already pledged by Directors | 1,725.00 |
| | 3,600.00 |
| Estimate to be raised from members' dues and other efforts, and pledges from members over the next 5 years, at rate of $600 per year | 3,000.00 |
| (approx. 20% of total goal) | 6,600.00 |
| Balance to be raised by Public Appeals | 26,000.00 |
| | 32,600.00 |
| less allow for printing and other expenses ($125 per year) | 600.00 |
| | $ 32,000.00 |

4. That if public response is good, and it seems possible to increase the above MINIMUM figure, that this be

done, and the number of parcels to be acquired be raised accordingly, up to a MAXIMUM of 30 (see map) or more if possible.

5. That in any event, if the Bishop family should make their property available, that this be included in the overall program, and the figure of $32,000.00 be raised accordingly.

6. That efforts be continued to locate any additional places that may have been overlooked by placing appeals in all the smaller newspapers of the two counties asking property owners to notify MNA if they wish their properties inspected or evaluated as prospective nature sanctuaries (for gift or purchase).

7. That letters be sent to owners of property in the two counties (not on the sanctuary list) where plants on the list of 33 rare wildflowers grow, pointing out the identity and rarity of the plants, and the desirability of protecting them. Many owners are unaware of their existence and could save them from thoughtless destruction.

8. That all of MNA's field trips during 1962 be held exclusively on the nature sanctuary properties under consideration, for the purpose of more adequately censusing and appraising their plant and animal life, in case choices are necessary, and also to assist in preparation of guidebooks for future use.

9. That a finance committee be appointed to start at once to consider ways and means of raising $600 for MNA's Nature Sanctuary Fund for the year March, 1962-March, 1963 from its members, and that a separate committee be formed to solicit from outside sources.

10. That MNA use every means at its command to encourage (or prod, if necessary) other conservation organizations in and near Detroit (and eventually in the 14 other metropolitan areas of southern Michigan) to get started on a similar program, working outward in all directions from population centers until the circles meet. We can give them the shortcuts to putting such a program into effect in a space of two years' time.

(Signed) Bertha Daubendiek,

Thelma Sonnenberg,

Nature Sanctuaries Committee for MNA, 1953-1962.

We wish to express thanks to the earlier members of this committee for their help, especially Bob Ambacher, James Kenney, Arlene Gregory and Ann Crocker. Mrs. George Tapley has given invaluable assistance. Others who have helped materially in one way or another are: Mrs. Bette Jane Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Senghas, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Jasper, Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Hemer, Alton H. Noe, Alton McGaw, James Horton, Michael Loges, Douglas Middleton, Marie Malik, Charles Shoumaker, Frank Giambrone, Wendell Lichtenfelt, Mrs. Donald Cope, Mrs. Francis Spencer, DickCoulon, Ralph O'Reilly, C. W. Pohly, John Streefkerk, Bill Hopkins, Martha Lengemann, Elwyn Rapp, Mrs. Charles Starkweather, Mrs. James McEvoy, Mrs. Helen Rice, Fred Case, Jr., Walter Nickell, Alfred Phillips, Mrs. Ada Draveling, Mrs. William Rowley, Mrs. Charles Rivard. We are deeply indebted for their courteous cooperation to: The Leon Bishop family, Sam Frankel and the Wayne Kasuris, Bruce Harding, Mrs. Sherman Harding, and to Jack Van Coevering of the Detroit Free Press.

* * *

TO: W. D. McIntyre August 31, 1961

FROM: Forrest T. Marx

## REPORT ON POLLUTION IN WATERS IN AND AROUND MONROE

(together with other data and findings)

On the date 8-10-61, I visited the Sewage Disposal Plant and made a thorough inspection of the inner workings as well as the Clearifiers, Digesters, etc., which are out of doors. I also checked their methods and also the laboratory control and found that they were doing a very complete job. It is true that at certain times of the day, the Clearifiers do not present a pleasing picture but they do not have control of the incoming sewage. Today there were four men working on the Clearifiers, scraping off old paint and applying new primer and paint. The general overall housekeeping was acceptable.

The amount of contamination in the final effluent sewage is extremely low because it is thoroughly chlorinated before being discharged into the river. Hourly checks are made to determine the degree of contamination. Currently they are treating approximately 2.9 million gallons in 24 hours with 175 lbs of chlorine. Incidentally, as the sewage first reaches the Sewage Disposal Plant, a primary shot of chlorine is introduced (75 lbs per 24 hr day) to intentionally destroy a large percentage of objectionable bacteria, principally from fecal matter. I examined the solid residue from Digestors which is deposited to the East of the plant but it is not objectionable. People may have this material for the asking.

Generally, while this plant is a primary sewage disposal plant, I am of the opinion that it is doing everything that it was originally intended to do and with satisfactory results. It is capable of treating 6 million gallons of sewage daily and they are presently treating about 1/2 this amount daily.

Mr. Gessner, the Plant Manager, appears to be thoroughly acquainted with the job and informs me that the supporting employees must meet certain civil service standards to qualify for this type of work.

Friday, August 11 - I made an inspection of waters around the old River Raisin, which is directly South of Ford Plant. Found considerable accumulation of green sludge, etc., near shore which appeared to have been created by a fibrous material probably from the paper mills. While in this area, I borrowed a row boat to get first-hand information about the Ford effluent discharge. It was extremely clear and was entering the river with terrific force and with considerable volume. I understand that Ford treats both the industrial wastes as well as the sanitary, with disposals of their own. I believe that the Ford situation is good for the River waters. because it causes sufficient turbulance to cause undesirable solids to continue on to the lake, as well as introduce large volumes of clear, oxygen laden water into the somewhat turbid River Raisin waters. If dead fish are found in these waters, it certainly will not be caused by waters discharged from the Ford Motor Company plant. I collected samples of water in the Eddy currents of the Ford effluent discharge and it was of better than average quality.

Saturday, August 12 - Visited various places along River Raisin from a point somewhere in the vicinity of Blissfield to six points along the river, and to the Waterloo Dam. Samples were collected at several points but in no instance was there evidence of excessive pollution. Several samples showed erosion but only in traces.

Tuesday, August 15 - On this date, I inspected an area on the North side of the River Raisin, West of Monroe to Grape Bridge but there was little or no evidence of excessive pollution.

Wednesday, August 16 - Made an inspection and collected 9 samples of sewage and other questionable waters in Monroe and environs, this exact location noted below, together with chemical data. A number of the locations noted are certainly trouble spots as the result of the tests manifest, the paper mills being the principle offenders.

Sample 1 - Consolidated Paper Company emptying into River Raisin - 2nd Cut South. Side Plant - Collected 8-16-61 - Weather clear - little or no wind -

Total solids 14.91 Grains per gallon
256.0 Parts per million

Extremely turbid and cloudy, indicating paper processing wastes.

Sample 6A - Consolidated Paper Company emptying into River Raisin - 2nd Cut South. Side Plant - Collected 8-28-61 - Weather clear - Southeast Wind -

Total solids 27.87 Grains per gallon
478.0 Parts per million

Large amounts of fibrous paper stock together with extremely high turbidities.

Sample 2 - Outlet drain into River Raisin at the Port of Monroe - Sample collected 8-16-61 - Weather fair with little or no wind.

Total solids 36.35 Grains per gallon
623.0 Parts per million

Solids consisted mostly of vegetable matter together with traces of erosion.

Sample 3 - Mason Run Outlet into Port Waters. Both Consolidated Paper Company. North Side Plant and River Raisin Paper Company, use this run for a paper waste disposal - Sample collected 8-16-61 - Weather fair - no wind -

Total solids 33.81 Grains per gallon
579.0 Parts per million

Solids and liquid portion of sample highly colored (orange), indicating the use of straw, in the processing of paper.

Sample 4 - Mason Run Ditch located below River Paper and Consolidated Paper Company North Side, use this ditch as an outlet for industrial waste. Sample collected 8-16-61 - Weather fair and no wind -

Total solids 54.98 Grains per gallon
942.0 Parts per million

Solids and liquid portion of sample highly colored (orange), indicating the use of straw in the processing of paper. This sample was really loaded with contaminents, especially paper stock.

Sample 5 - Consolidated Paper Company (North Side Plant) outlet, which flows into Mason Run Ditch - Sample collected 8-16-61 - Weather fair - no wind -

Total solids 28.68 Grains per gallon

492.0 Parts per million

Solids and liquid portion of sample colored a reddish brown and the solids content was all fibrous paper stock. The coloring no doubt was a result of a dye or other coloring matter.

Sample 6--Consolidated Paper Company (West Side Plant) outlet to River Raisin - Sample collected 8-16-61 - Weather fair

Total solids 56.71 Grains per gallon

972.0 Parts per million

Solids fibrous together with large amounts of carbon black pigment. Effluent discharge waters produces an unsightly black mixture which extended well towards the middle of the river. This is a trouble spot.

Sample 7 - Sample of River Raisin water collected at a point west of any factory effluent discharge lines - Sample collected 8-16-61 - Weather fair - West wind

Total solids 3.63 Grains per gallon

62.0 Parts per million

This sample was collected especially for comparison with waters, both contaminated by industrial wastes and water as it is before contamination. As you will note, this specimen is reasonably contamination free.

Sample 8 - South Monroe Townsite Tamerac Drain, which empties into Plum Creek - Sample collected 8-16-61 - Weather fair - no wind

Total solids 40.12 Grains per gallon
688.0 Parts per million

This outlet water was high in detergents and other objectionable matter. I would consider this outlet as an objectionable sewage outlet.

Sample 9 - Plum Creek outlet at South Monroe Street which empties into Lake Erie - Sample collected 8-16-61 - Weather clear

Total solids 19.56 Grains per gallon
335.0 Parts per million

Specimen of the effluent waste indicated acid content of a PH 6.6. It was otherwise reasonably low in solids.

Sample 1A - Sewage Disposal Plant effluent discharge into River Raisin - Sample collected 8-28-61 - Weather fair.

Total solids 7.5 Grains per gallon
128.0 Parts per million
Residual Chlorine 1.0 Parts per million

The discharge waters from Sewage Disposal Plant are of better than average quality and in my opinion present no problems of contamination.

Sample 2A - Monroe Auto Equipment Company Drain into River Raisin - Sample collected 8-28-61 - Weather clear

Total solids 9.17 Grains per gallon

158.0 Parts per million

Sample was not grossly contaminated with objectionable materials. Little or no oil stick was noted. It did have a trace of turbidity, due to overflowing of washing machines.

Sample 3A - Monroe Paper Products Company Drain into River Raisin - Sample collected 8-29-61 - Weather fair

Total solids 30.49 Grains per gallon

523.0 Parts per million

Samples contained a dark fibrous material, probably paper stock. I consider the amount excessive.

Sample 4A - Monroe Water Filtration Plant discharge outlet into River Raisin - Sample collected 8-29-61 - Weather fair

Total solids 9.69 Grains per gallon

166.0 Parts per million

The waters from Filtration Plant, does not in my opinion, offer a serious source of contamination.

Sample 5A - Mouth of LaPlaisance Creek at Bolles Harbor Port of Refuge - Sample collected 8-18-61 - Weather clear - wind-North

Total solids 12.58 Grains per gallon

216.0 Parts per million

Sample contained some erosion material together with vegetable matter. The solids content was not excessive but it did show an acid content of a PH 6.8. Someone no doubt is using this creek as a disposal for acid wastes.

Sample 6A - Monroe City Water - Sample collected 8-25-61 from drinking fountain at Monroe Auto Equipment Plant. The solids content was nil and there was no evidence of turbidity. This sample was taken for reasons of comparison.

Conclusions: From the above data, you will note that the danger spots are the paper mills. I calculate that for every one million gallons of discharge water emptied into River Raisin, over 1100 lbs of solids are also deposited into the River. I understand that some of these mills discharge four or five million gallons of water daily. This situation certainly presents a serious problem. Plum Creek and Tamerac Drain, also are sources of contamination and should not be overlooked.

(Signed) F. T. Marx, Chief Chemist

* * *

October 20, 1961

FOR: IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUBJECT: WHAT INADEQUATE SANITARY SEWERAGE FACILITIES HAS LED TO

FROM: THE ALLEN PARK, MICHIGAN, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

TO: MEMBERS OF AFFECTED GOVERNMENTAL UNITS
COPIES TO OUR MEMBERS, INVOLVED AGENCIES AND
PRESS SERVICE

For many months now, the Allen Park Chamber of Commerce has warned of the consequences to be expected unless sanitary sewerage facilities throughout the Downriver Area were improved and soon.

You were told of economic hard times for building tradesmen, building supply firms, contractors, sub-contractors, land owners, real estate brokers etc.

You know now we were not "crying wolf" as you witness the flood of failures among building business firms operating Downriver, and spreading unemployment among tradesmen as new construction grinds to a halt because of the building ban imposed by the Michigan State Department of Health.

You were also warned of the health hazard to our Downriver population--now that danger has become a reality.

And don't think for one moment that the existing hepatitis outbreak is of a temporary and minor nature--it isn't.

Hepatitis as bad an affliction as it is known to be is nothing compared to the more deadly diseases that contamination breeds and--you know this to be true.

We are most impatient now for action by the communities involved in the Wayne County Department of Public Work's Downriver Sewerage Proposal, and can no longer stand by while politicians debate and delay its approval.

Already serious rumblings of discontent are being heard from the beach areas to our south, which have received wide adverse publicity since the closing of Sterling State Park, again by the Michigan Department of Health because of pollution in the Detroit River and Lake Erie attributed mainly to their up river "neighbors".

These beach area folks have seen property values drop drastically as well as their health placed in jeopardy, and will not be satisfied until the cause of their trouble is eliminated.

So now political procrastination has led to an emergency situation which must be dealt with accordingly.

The sixteen million dollars the D.P.W. Sewerage Proposal is to cost will be peanuts if the beach area residents decide to assess damage claims against the communities which have contributed to their plight.

Now time has run out.

PLEASE-----DON'T SAY YOU DIDN'T KNOW.

Sincerely,

Walter McNally, President

Allen Park Chamber of Commerce

Du 2-4258

* * *

July 7, 1961

The Honorable R. C. Pfeil
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer
U.S. Army Engineer District
1101 Washington Boulevard
Detroit 26, Michigan

Dear Sir:

The President and Council of the Village of Gibraltar herewith record written opposition to the establishment of harbor lines around Celeron Island, Sugar Island, Powder House, Fox Island, etc., as outlined in your public notice.

The establishment of such lines and consequent filling in to said lines, would definitely create a hazardous navigational problem to the owners of small craft, a considerable number of such owners of which reside in the Village of Gibraltar and surrounding areas.

As you know the Sugar Island Channel as it is now charted presents a problem to such craft, inasmuch as the channel is narrow with a very swift current. Given a slight wind the channel becomes completely hazardous. With the establishment of harbor lines around Celeron Island and with the Island's proximity to the Village of Gibraltar a similar situation would be created.

Furthermore, with the filling in to the proposed harbor lines around these various islands and that area below the Village of Gibraltar the ever present problem of flooding would be greatly magnified. In the past portions of the Village have been under water, with the advent of the proposed project we feel the entire Village of Gibraltar would be jeopardized.

We sincerely feel that the best interest of the people residing in the Village of Gibraltar and those areas most directly affected by this proposal will be best served by the abandonment of said project.

Very truly yours,
VILLAGE OF GIBRALTAR,
(Signed) By Jessie M. Marsh (Mrs)
Village Clerk

* * *

Article from Michigan Department of Health by Albert E. Heustis, M.D., Commissioner, January, 1962, Vol. 50, No. 1.

HEPATITIS FELLS A RECORD 4,607
IN '61 MARCH THROUGH MICHIGAN

More Michigan people than ever before were sick with hepatitis in 1961.

In fact, the 4,607 cases reported were more than twice the number (2,113) counted in 1960. This was the previous record high year for this disease.

Health officials believe the incidence was probably quite a bit higher than reported, considering the number of mild attacks for which victims did not seek medical treatment.

The Michigan experience was not unique, however. Several other states and the U.S. as a whole also reported a record number of cases. The national figure was estimated at about 70,000 cases. This, too, was more than twice as many as the previous record set the year before.

Hepatitis is a liver-damaging disease. It is caused by a virus so tiny it can't be seen, but often so mighty its blow can be felt with the impact of a sledge hammer.

## TWO TYPES

There are two types--infectious and serum. Infectious hepatitis is far more common because it is generally spread from person to person via the intestinal-oral route, much like typhoid fever.

Serum hepatitis, as far as is known is transmitted only through blood, blood products, or instruments contaminated with blood. Its source is a victim or previous victim of the disease. It is the type which accounts for nearly all deaths attributed to hepatitis.

While infectious hepatitis is spread principally by poor hygiene practices it also can be transmitted by blood and occasionally is. An example is using a contaminated needle to give an injection.

Hepatitis is a cyclic disease. Like measles and some other highly contagious disease, it has "peak and valley" years. The current onslaught, the worst ever experienced in this country, started its upward trend in 1958. It has increased steadily ever since.

## Cite Urban Sprawl

Many doctors in public health, as well as private physicians, attribute the present high incidence to health hazards associated with the urban sprawl characterizing most large cities in recent years.

Residential, industrial, and commercial expansion in the outskirts has been so rapid it has been "next to impossible" for municipal governments with jurisdiction to keep pace in providing adequate sanitation facilities.

Accordingly, health hazards and problems have come to light with as much rapidity as the developments themselves.

The major problems have been to provide enough good water to drink and water for various industrial processes and adequate sewage disposal and treatment for the fringe dwellers.

## Overloading Sewers Common

In several communities, particularly the new ones springing up throughout Wayne County, tie-ins with the municipal sewer system created such overloads it became necessary for the state health department to ban further connections until contracts were signed by the communities to build relief sewers.

An immediate and cooperative effort resulted in paving the way for construction of the much needed relief facilities.

Hepatitis epidemics in some areas of the state have been traced to well water contamination by overflowing septic tanks.

An outbreak of this type occurred in a small northern Michigan community in 1959. It was triggered by a visitor who was convalescing from the disease but still shedding the virus. Before the outbreak could be halted, 90 persons had become ill. In several cases the source of their illness was traced from the septic tank at the home where the visitor stayed to the victims wells.

The incubation period for hepatitis is from two to six weeks. Symptoms at onset include fever, headache, nausea, extreme fatigue, and depression.

The appearance of jaundice used to be the "tell-tale" symptom on which diagnosis was established. More recently, however, it has been found that for every case with jaundice, there may be many without, particularly among children..

### Strikes the Young Mostly

Hepatitis strikes children and young adults most frequently and fortunately these groups usually have milder attacks. The most severe cases are usually found among older persons and pregnant women.

The highest incidence of the disease generally occurs during a period from late autumn through early winter. In the present time, however, several peaks have occurred outside this period.

Most of the increase has been in the infectious type through Table I, above includes both infectious and serum hepatitis cases reported in the past decade.

The apparent constancy in deaths in both high and low years is due to the fact that deaths are almost entirely caused by serum hepatitis which has increased very little compared to the infectious type.

### Vaccine on the Way

The biggest advance yet toward prevention and possibly eventual eradication of hepatitis came in 1961 with the disclosure that a vaccine which looks promising is on its way to development as a result of tests conducted on more than 200 convict volunteers at Joliet State Penitentiary.

The tests had been going on in secret for five years. About 50 of the volunteers were reported to have developed hepatitis after being inoculated with virus organisms causing the disease. Other convicts who were inoculated with the infective virus did not contract the disease after they were vaccinated against it.

It was also discovered last year that a certain breed of monkey is susceptible to the disease. Previously it had been thought only humans contracted hepatitis. It is for this reason that progress in developing a vaccine has been slow because human volunteers needed to test vaccines have been "hard to come by." The availability of monkeys for testing vaccines should help speed progress in this vital phase of the fight to tame one of today's most debilitating diseases.

* * *

Article from Michigan Department of Health, Vol. 50, No. 1, January, 1962.

## DR. BARRETT REPORTS:

## HEPATITIS IMPACT HITS MONROE

By C. D. Barrett, Sr., M.D., Director Monroe
County Health Department

(EDITOR'S NOTE: When hepatitis strikes a community, how great is the impact on its citizenry? Who, or what, gets the blame for the outbreak? What, if anything, can be done to quell the epidemic? What is the role of the local health department during an outbreak? And, what are some of the complications which may develop? Dr. Barrett answers these questions and others in his description of the hepatitis outbreak in Monroe County during 1960-61).

The effect of hepatitis on the community depends on the local incidence and the emphasis given to the subject in the news, both locally and nationally.

The ingredients which increase impact were present in Monroe County. The incidence was high--6.2 percent of all cases reported in the state in a county comprising 1.3 percent of the state's total population. And a great deal of publicity was given the situation to the local papers and over the radio. At the same time, a number of articles on hepatitis were appearing in national magazines and television programs were discussing the high incidence of the disease throughout the U.S.

In a situation like this, the county health department must, because of popular demand, if not otherwise, "do something". The question is: "Do what?"

When a case of hepatitis occurs in a school room, for example, all parents of children in the same room and riding the same school bus, the teachers, the bus driver. and all the neighbors and friends--all want something done. More specifically, they demand gamma globulin!

## "You're on the Spot"

When you get several cases in the same room, and 20 or 30 over a period of a few weeks in the same school, then the health department is on the spot.

If there is a hospital patient diagnosed as hepatitis after admission, all the nurses, nurse aides and hospital staff are even more vehement in their demands on the health department.

Every county has some peculiar characteristics working to its advantage or disadvantage. Monroe County has a 30-mile Lake Erie shore line. On this shore line is located Sterling State Park. As many as 800,000 people come here each summer to swim, fish and picnic. Pollution from the Detroit River and from Monroe County sources affect the quality of water on the Sterling State Park bathing beach. Last summer, signs were placed on the beach August 15 reading, "Unsafe for Swimming--Michigan Dept. of Health".

The number of visitors to the park decreased to a small fraction of the normal, and suddenly all Monroe County--or so it seemed--rose up in wrath.

## Comes the Loud Cry

There was a long and loud cry that prompt measures be taken to alleviate the situation. Although there is no epidemiological evidence that pollution of Lake Erie water is a factor in the incidence of hepatitis, nevertheless, the leaders in the Lake Erie Clean-up Committee immediately connected the two facts and inferred in public statements that the high incidence of hepatitis was a result of the neglect of public health officials which allows pollution of Lake Erie and other waters to exist.

We in the health department have been concerned about the possible causative effect of polluted private wells as related to hepatitis incidence. Monroe county's topography is flat. Most of the county is less than 50 feet above the lake level. Ground water is in many places near the surface. There is much underlying lime stone formation which is near or at the surface; also much clay and as a result many vicinities and many homes are so located that septic tanks and the fields cannot operate effectively. We have many polluted wells.

### Well Pollution A Factor?

Considerable time and effort has been given to a study to determine whether polluted wells have been a factor in the high incidence of hepatitis. We have been aided in this study by Dr. Horace Dodge and Dr. Charles Stark of the University of Michigan School of Public Health. This study is not complete but thus far there is no evidence of which I am aware that Monroe County's high incidence is due to any other than the usual person to person contacts.

The administration of gamma globulin to contacts of cases has been referred by the attending physician to the health department in an estimated 85 percent of the cases. For the 259 cases reported from January 1 to November 30, 1961, the health department has given gamma globulin injections to 760 different contacts. For the month of April, 1961 a review of our records shows that for the 40 cases reported, physicians attending 34 of these cases referred all of the contacts to the health department. These 34 cases represented 121 children and adults, who as contacts all received gamma globulin injections during April.

### Gamma Globulin Effective

Seven individuals (included in the total of 259 reported elsewhere) are secondary cases with onsets following immunization with gamma globulin. The interval between injections of the gamma globulin and reported date of onset in these cases varies from two days to two weeks. We have no data including controls on which to base any sound conclusions as to the effect of gamma globulin in preventing hepatitis. It would appear that, with only seven secondary cases among an estimated 900 contacts, the use of gamma globulin has been effective.

The chronological picture of the epidemic shows the outbreak starts building up in February and March of 1960. It then levels off but does not drop to the low level in the summer to be expected with the normal seasonal decline. After the beginning of the next school year, the incidence mounts rapidly and continues high all through the winter and is slower than normal in declining during the summer of 1961.

Comparing the two years, we find the incidence was low in the first part of 1960 and high in the same period of 1961. The incidence was high in the last part of 1960 but low late in 1961.

The incidence of reported cases is shown in Table I. Those over age 20 are 33.8 percent. The percent over age 20 for Michigan in 1961, weeks 17-43 is given by the Public Health Service as 43.7 percent. Perhaps the use of gamma globulin for household contacts has kept the incidence relatively low among the adults.

TABLE I -- Age Incidence -- January 1
September 30, 1961

| Age Group | Cases | |
|---|---|---|
| | 14 | |
| 5-9 | 84 | 63.2% |
| 10-19 | 66 | |
| 20-29 | 37 | |
| 30-39 | 27 | |
| 40-49 | 12 | |
| 50 + | 5 | 33.8% |
| Unknown | 1 | |
| Total | 246 | |

## Cases Concentrated

Table 2 shows the number of cases by city and townships for all of 1960 and the first nine months of 1961. As may be noted in the last column, showing rates for the 21 months, the greatest concentration of cases has been in two townships--Frenchtown immediately north of Monroe, and Monroetown, adjacent to the southern city limits. Monroetown Township has had the highest incidence, 1,234 per 100,000 population for the 21-month period, of any of the Townships. However, a small community in Frenchtown township, known as Detroit Beach, with a population of about 1,500 had 23 cases in a three-month period (March, April and May, 1961).

The county as a whole had a case rate in 1960 of 179, and for the first 11 months of 1961, the case rate was 250.

The rate for the state is approximately 54 for 1961 and the national rate appears to be considerably below that of Michigan.

## Monroe's Caseload High

Monroe County's incidence of hepatitis is higher than any other Michigan County of more than 50,000 population.

Because of the high concentration of cases in Detroit Beach and because of the known high percentage of private wells in this area showing pollution, an attempt was made to determine whether there was any causative relation. Fifteen homes, having one or more cases of hepatitis, and 29 homes as controls with no reported cases, were selected and samples of water were collected from these wells and two tests were run on each. These tests were the standard coliform index done at the Michigan Department of Health laboratory and a field test for detergents.

In the 29 wells selected as controls, 13 were found unsafe by the bacteriological tests and eight of these wells had detergents present. In the 15 wells used at homes with known hepatitis cases, eight showed bacterial pollution and three were positive for detergents. The difference does not appear to be significant.

## More Complete Report Coming

A more complete epidemiological report is being compiled by Drs. Dodge and Stark.

Many hours of time by nurses and clerks have been given in the health department office and clinic for interviews, history taking, records and gamma globulin injections. Also, many home and school visits have been made by nurses for investigations, history taking and health education, as well as much time given by sanitariums in the investigation of wells and sewage disposal systems.

## TABLE 2 -- Cases by City and Townships

Jan. 1, 1960 to Sept. 30, 1961

| | | CASES | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Population | 1960 | 1961<br>(9 Mo.) | Total | Rates<br>(21 mo.) |
| Monroe City | | | | | |
| Townships | 22,968 | 50 | 38 | 88 | 387 |
| 1. Ash | 4,825 | 10 | 11 | 21 | 435 |
| 2. Bedford | 14,353 | 13 | 18 | 31 | 216 |
| 3. Berlin | 4,459 | 23 | 12 | 35 | 785 |
| 4. Dundee | 4,511 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 110 |
| 5. Erie | 5,456 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 165 |
| 6. Exeter | 2,518 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 40 |
| 7. Frenchtown | 12,199 | 28 | 76 | 104 | 853 |
| 8. Ida | 2,000 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 154 |
| 9. LaSalle | 3,672 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 245 |
| 10. London | 2,422 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 124 |
| 11. Milan | 2,490 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 201 |
| 12. Monroetown | 8,343 | 45 | 58 | 103 | 1,234 |
| 13. Raisinville | 3,277 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 183 |
| 14. Summerfield | 3,386 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 59 |
| 15. Whiteford | 3,641 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 27 |
| Total | 101,126 | 181 | 246 | 427 | 423 |

Article from: Monroe News, 3-22-62

## COUNTY'S HEPATITIS CASES DECLINE IN TWO MONTHS

The number of hepatitis cases in Monroe County has declined sharply in recent months, Dr. C. D. Barrett of the Monroe County Health Department said today.

A total of 62 cases were recorded during the first two months of 1961 and only 6 in January and February, 1962. This contrasts with the statewide figures of 739 cases during the first two months of 1961 and 937 for the same period of 1962.

"So far in March, we have had only two cases of hepatitis," Dr. Barrett said.

The present low incidence of the disease in Monroe County is well below the 292 cases recorded from October, 1960, to May, 1961. It was this epidemic that gave Monroe County the notoriety of having 6.2 per cent of all cases in the state and only 1.3 per cent of Michigan's population.

"It was one of those epidemics that burned itself out," Dr. Barrett said. "The use of the gamma globulin drug also helped. It was administered in households where members of the family were exposed to the disease. In April, 1961, a total of 121 children and adults received injections of the drug.

"However, we have no data on which to base any sound conclusions as to the effectiveness of gamma globulin in preventing hepatitis."

The work of the health department staff in fighting the spread of the ailment also was cited by Dr. Barrett. "Many hours were given to interviews, history taking, gamma globulin injections and health-education programs in our office and in homes and schools," he said. "Much time was devoted by our sanitarians to investigations of wells and sewage-disposal systems.

"Considerable effort was given to a survey to determine the effect of polluted wells in causing the disease. There are many of these wells in the county. There is no evidence so far that the county's high incidence of the disease is due to other than the usual person-to-person contacts. There also is no proof that pollution in Lake Erie is a factor."

A study of last year's outbreak is being made by Drs. Horace Dodge and Charles Stark of the University of Michigan School of Public Health. It still is incomplete, Dr. Barrett added.

Hepatitis, once called yellow jaundice, is an ailment in which ducts from the liver to the gall bladder become obstructed, the doctor said. "Bile can't be stored and part of it gets into the blood stream causing yellowing of the eyes and skin. The disease is seldom fatal but it leaves the victim with a tired feeling that lasts for weeks.

"It can do permanent damage to the liver but 90 per cent of the victims recover completely."

During the recent epidemic, Monroe, Frenchtown, and Berlin Townships had the highest number of cases. Incidence also was high in Ash and LaSalle Townships and the City of Monroe.

A breakdown of occurrence of the disease by age groups showed children up to 19 most susceptible although effects of the illness are more severe in adults, Dr. Barrett said.

* * *

Article from: The Detroit News, Sunday, February 11, 1962

ENGINEERS TO CHOOSE SITE FOR $172 MILLION WATER PLANT

By John M. Carlisle

The long-proposed Lake Huron intake and Port Huron Water Station for the Detroit water commission, involving the eventual expenditure of $172 million, will move much closer to realization this week.

The current plan is to have the water intake four miles out in Lake Huron, draw it into the water station through a pressurized tunnel, and pump it through water mains 36 miles into the present Detroit water system.

Consults Engineers

Gerald Remus, municipal water department general manager, will confer Tuesday with 10 engineers on the proposed water plant site. They will be asked to choose a "general area" for one of three possible sites in the Port Huron area.

Borings were taken of soil conditions for these sites in November and December.

The Board of Water Commissioners plans to construct the Lake Huron water facilities in three sections over an 18-year period.

Construction will start on the first section, which will cost $88 million, in the spring of 1964. It will be completed in 1967. The other sections will be built as metropolitan Detroit's expanding water needs require them.

The new Port Huron water station will be equipped with settling basins, pumping plant, filter facilities, chlorinators and storage basins.

## 250 MILLION GALLONS

The capacity of the first section will be 250 million gallons a day. The next two sections will each have similar capacities.

This will give Detroit's Lake Huron system a total capacity of 750 million gallons a day when it is finally completed.

The Lake Huron intake has been under discussion since an elaborate study was made of Detroit's water needs in 1924-25. The intake has been in the "thinking stage" for the last five years.

"We think we will need this additional water capacity by 1967," Remus explained. "We are obligated to get a supply of water other than through Lake St. Clair.

RIVER INTAKE

"We now have everything boxed in one spot. Our present intake is off the head of Belle Isle. When the Allen Park water station, which we bought from the county, is completed in the spring of 1964, its intake will be from the Detroit River off Fighting Island.

"In the Lake Huron project we will be buying water reliability. Civil defense and the 5th Corps Army Industrial Security Division has been critical of our confinement to Detroit River intakes.

"They are convinced and so is the water commission that extra reliability like the Lake Huron intake has to be provided.

"As I see it, this will be a normal expansion for our utility in metropolitan Detroit to supply what water is needed."

Remus said the Lake Huron facilities would be financed "without any hardship" by the giant revenues of the water department. These "cash register funds" would support revenue bonds.

Detroit's water system, Remus pointed out, has been

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spending a yearly average of $10 million since 1948 on improvements.

Detroit's water intake was off Water Works Park until the present system was started in 1926 with an expenditure of $33 million and an intake off Belle Isle.

The giant Northeast Water Station was completed in 1956 at a cost of $52 million. The addition to the Springwells Water Station was completed in 1959 at a cost of $35 million.

Several years ago, the city undertook to absorb and construct new facilities of the county water system. When it is finished, the Allen Park system will supply the southwestern part of the county.

The water department is so wealthy that it has already paid the county $8 million in two payments for county expenditures on the Allen Park station.

The Detroit department, with 1,265 employes and a yearly budget of $25 million, is self-supporting. It does not cost the taxpayers anything for its operations or its capital improvements.

It now supplies 1,700,000 City of Detroit customers and 1,600,000 other customers in 52 suburban communities.

Water mains are now being constructed for six new customers--Pontiac, Utica, Troy, Belleville, van Buren and Farmington townships.

## BILLION CAPACITY

The water department now has a top capacity of a billion gallons a day and it pumps an average of 490 million gallons a day.

It is the city's most successful department. It also has 155 employees and a $7 million yearly budget in its sewage treatment division.

The department has assets of $284 million, including the 24-story Water Board Building, the Northeast, Springwells and Water Works Park water stations. It also has a vast system of water mains, filtering plants and water storage facilities.

This tremendous enterprise is run by a policy-making body of seven commissioners, including four Detroit residents, and one commissioner each from Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

The late Mayor Albert E. Cobo once observed that "it's fantastic what a big business selling water is."

* * *

Article from: The News Herald, Wednesday, January 31, 1962
Volume 85--No. 5

## COUNTY SETS NEW SEWER DEADLINE

### 'TASK FORCE' READY TO ROLL FOR SOLUTION

The Wayne County DPW, shooting for another chance at Federal aid on its $15-million Downriver sanitary sewer system, has sent a new--Feb. 16--deadline on Downriver communities' contract signing.

Simultaneously, yesterday, Gov. John B. Swainson's "Task Force" was reactivated to help clarify newly issued sewer contracts and to speed community action.

George Bingham, County DPW director, said the schedule of meetings and organization of the Task Force will be worked out in the next few days.

The Task Force, organized at the Colonial House in Taylor Township last October, has been inactive awaiting changes in the proposed contracts to 14 Downriver communities and the call to action. Contracts stipulate, primarily, financial commitments for the $15 million sanitary sewer system.

"For awhile, DPW board considered diverting the Downriver sewage to Detroit. It was decided by mid-January that this would be unworkable," said Bingham.

Almost simultaneously, Bingham continued, an opportunity came to secure $250,000 Federal grant for the Goddard Road segment of the $15-million sewer project. This opportunity came because some communities in northern Michigan failed to meet Federal time limits and requirements for grants on their projects. This made the Goddard project eligible for aid.

"For Wayne County DPW now to qualify," said Bingham, "we must reach a March 1 deadline on filing with the Michigan Resource Commission for the Federal Grant.

"Because we must get the contract okayed by the Wayne County Board of Supervisors after communities sign," Bingham added, "We have asked them to indicate their willingness to sign by Feb. 16. It is to help these communities because of this short period that we have reactivated the Task Force," he added.

Wyandotte Council received the new contract Monday. Commenting briefly, City Engineer Louis H. Moehr said "this one saves us $100,000 because they have cut the population figures from 54,000 to 47,000." This was one change Moehr had fought for. He suggested some of Wyandotte's other suggested changes could best be solved though other agreements

Bingham said other contract changes include Brownstown Township as a signee as a future possible financial participant in the project although it would not presently benefit directly from the project. Other changes asked by Riverview were made.

On the Riverview action pulling out of the county project, Bingham commented "we are still hoping they may be in the project when they find other communities are signed up by March 1."

* * *

Article from: Toledo Blade, 3-20-62

## HARBOR VIEW PRESSED TO BUILD SEWERS

### $221,341 Price Tag Put on System

Harbor View (pop. 273) is being pressed to build a sewage disposal system to replace septic tanks and outhouses.

There is an estimated $221,341 price tag on sewers and a treatment plant, Ray Hall, county sanitary engineer, said yesterday.

This is $53,201 more than the $168,140 tax duplicate of Harbor View.

Assessments would be $38.52 per front foot, Mr. Hall informed county commissioners. On the basis of 182 lots of record, assessments would run $1,216.16 a lot.

Because lots are only 30 feet wide in most cases, many homes occupy two parcels, thus doubling the assessment.

By any standard, Mr. Hall said, cost would seem to be prohibitive. Help from the Federal Government is one avenue being explored, he said.

Both state and county health departments are urging an end to septic tanks and outhouses in the tiny, two-street lakefront community.

Since the early 1950's the county's minimum area requirement, with city water, for a septic tank is 10,000 square feet, according to Dr. Dorothy VanAusdal, county health commissioner.

It would take at least two Harbor View lots, which are usually 175 feet deep, to meet county requirements.

* * *

Article from: Detroit News, 12-8-61

RIVER WASTE BLAMED ON CANADIANS

From Our Lansing Bureau

Lansing, Dec. 8. -- Gov. Swainson today asked for federal help to eliminate Canadian pollution of the Detroit River and Lake Erie.

He sent the request to Abraham A. Ribicoff, secretary of health, education and welfare.

Swainson said reports reaching him charged that Windsor and Sarnia, Ont., were discharging untreated sewage into the water.

"If this, indeed, is a contributing factor, this added problem would have international implications that would better lend themselves to federal assistance to bring about pollution abatement," Swainson's letter said.

Swainson said the problem was especially acute in southeastern Michigan where the densely populated metropolitan area was creating new sewage problems.

He said the Michigan Water Resources Commission "has compiled an exemplary" record in most inland areas of the state.

"However, as is common in highly concentrated industrial areas, critical pollution problems make demands that are above and beyond the normal pollution control activities," he said.

* * *

ALLEN PARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Allen Park, Michigan

March 1, 1962

Mr. W. D. McIntyre
Monroe Auto Equipment Co.
Monroe, Michigan

Dear Mr. McIntyre:

I read with interest your letter to the State Chamber of Commerce in regard to pollution of the waters of this area by industrial wastes.

Having myself a deep feeling of concern in this matter, it is my desire to personally say--THANKS.

In the foreseeable future, it is entirely possible that control of waste solids will be accomplished, at least we know definite movement in this direction is underway now, or will be shortly.

However, a much more serious contamination problem than solids will still persist to plague us, and that is--what is being done, or can be done toward bacterial control?

Since this type of pollution is unseen, it is passing unnoticed--or conveniently ignored in some quarters.

What I know of sewage disposal treatment plants presently in operation or planned are and will be, to my knowledge, completely inadequate in operation to eliminate harmful bacterial concentrations in the effluent.

That the Lake Erie Cleanup Committee is doing an admirable job, and needs continued and increasing support, is the purpose of this letter.

At the U. of M. there is a top authority in the field of bacteriology, who might be induced to help the Committee--DR. LLOYD KEMPE.

There have been so many admissions--and then denials, buck passings, procrastinations etc. by governmental agencies during this controversy, that it appears logical the only way to force action by these bureaus is to have a recognized top notcher laying it on the line for the committee--a man whose findings can not be refuted or taken lightly.

I do not know Dr. Kempe--only of him, from his former students now employed in bacteriological fields.

Perhaps, there may be someone presently working with the Committee who does know him, and would make the approach to enlist his help.

There is so much at stake now, that we simply cannot let the committee go it alone, through an uncharted course of governmental double talk and red tape which may lead to stagnation, disheartening discouragement--and failure.

It could very easily be that the next phase in this battle to gain proper sanitary controls will be to have positive, proven scientific data backing up a bunch of guys--amateurs who took on a big, big job and didn't quit.

That you and so many others are pitching it is gratifying.

Again--THANKS.

Sincerely,

ALLEN PARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

(Signed) Walter McNally, President

* * *

MONROE AUTO EQUIPMENT COMPANY

Monroe, Michigan

February 5, 1962

M . Harry R. Hall
Michigan State Chamber of Commerce
215 South Washington Boulevard
Lansing 25, Michigan

Dear Harry:

Inasmuch as it was impossible for me to attend the January 31 meeting of the Board of Directors, I would very much like to know what action was taken in regard to the proposal on the Sleeping Bear Dunes park. Personally, I am opposed to the establishment of this federal park, principally because I think a lot of other things should be done first.

As you know, we have a large state park here in Monroe County, known as Sterling State Park. The park is located on Lake Erie and in past years it had a very rapidly improving attendance, until last year when the beach waters were condemned by the Michigan Health Department.

For your information I am attaching copy of a confidential report that was prepared for me on August 31 by our chief chemist and you will note from this report that 1100 pounds of solids are dumped into Lake Erie by the paper companies for every million gallons of water that they use. The paper companies in Monroe use from 30,000,000 to 40,000,000 gallons of water per day and there is no question in my mind but what the major source of pollution in the area of Sterling State Park has been brought about by these paper mill waste materials that have been dumped into Lake Erie.

I am sure that you will find similar conditions existing in other areas throughout the State of Michigan, not only where paper is produced, but also other industrial operations where their effluent run-off is not held in check, and I think it is high time that the State Chamber of Commerce insist that these pollution practices which have been going on for years by many industries throughout the state be stopped at the earliest possible moment.

At the present time the federal government, under the direction of Mr. J. M. Rademacher, Chicago Office of the U.S. Department of Health, Education & Welfare, directed by the Hon. Abraham Ribicoff, one of the members of President Kennedy's cabinet, are making an investigation which they claim will be completed in eighteen months.

In my opinion this type of finagleing is nothing more than a means of investigating the complaints over such an extended length of time that the people who originated the complaints will forget about them, or have moved away or died. I do not intend to forget about this pollution problem. I have no intention of moving out of Monroe and my health is in excellent condition and I would like some action NOW, and if these politicians are going to persist in their delaying tactics they must be prepared to suffer the consequences of my personally exposing their delaying tactics to the public.

Therefore, in order to avoid embarrassment on their part, I would suggest that you encourage immediate action be taken to stop pollution by industry in all parts of the state and I would appreciate your advice as to what action you and the rest of the members of the Chamber of Commerce are taking in this direction.

Copies of this letter, incidentally, are going to the local Chamber of Commerce and the Chairman of the Lake Erie Cleanup Committee

Sincerely,

(Signed) W. D. McIntyre

* * *

STONEY POINTE COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS
RTE #2
DU. 2-4258 NEWPORT, MICHIGAN

July 17, 1961

Honorable Mayor and Council
City of Monroe
Monroe, Michigan

Gentlemen:

Meeting Thursday, July 13th, the Stoney Pointe Council of Presidents by resolution have directed that you be advised of a deplorable condition existing at the beaches along Brest Bay.

A deep silt has been deposited along the lake shore destroying the swimming areas of Stoney Pointe Beach Association and Brest Bay Grove Association.

It has been substantiated by governmental investigators that this mucky debris is waste from paper mills. Since the offending paper mills are located in your city, we are requesting that you take such action as will relieve our beach areas of this destructive polluting material.

The U. S. Corps of Engineers and the Water Resources Commission have been informed in this regard and have sampled and tested the contaminating residue.

It is entirely probable that you were unaware of the damage to the beaches on Brest Bay, especially since this area is to your north, but winds and possibly reverse currents have caused Monroe's paper mill effluent to move "upstream" to cause the problem.

Please let us know what you can and will do in this regard.

Yours truly

Walter McNally, President

Stoney Pointe Council of Presidents

* * *

EXCERPTS FROM MINUTES - WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION

May 18, 1961 meeting, page 3:

Sterling State Park beach: Mr. Eddy presented a letter to him from Dr. Heustis, dated May 15, 1961, stating that following consideration of studies made jointly by the staffs of the Water Resources Commission and the Michigan Department of Health. It has been demonstrated that the water quality at Sterling State Park beach cannot be maintained sufficiently free of contamination for protection of the public health. Dr. Heustis, further stated that no assurance could be given that the beach is now, or can be expected to be, safe for swimming. Following discussion, and in compliance with Mr. Eddy's request, it was the consensus of Members that staff, in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Health, present a report at the June meeting for Commission consideration, on what can be done, in addition to waste control programs and measures presently in effect or planned, to improve the water quality of Lake Erie at the beach.

June 22, 1961 meeting, page 5:

Lake Erie-Sterling State Park: Distribution was made of a 7 page report prepared by staff members of the Water Resources Commission and the Michigan Department of Health on the sanitary quality of water in Lake Erie at the Sterling State Park beach. Factors having a bearing on present quality were reviewed; the extent that these factors will be modified by current waste control measures and programs was discussed; the conditions under which a higher water quality might be achieved were also described in the report. The report concluded by stating that when all of the measures described are in effect, no assurance could be given that a uniform quality of water consistently acceptable for recreational bathing purposes could be maintained at the beach. Arthur Elmer, Chief, Parks and Recreation Division, Department of Conservation, stated that if the water at the beach is considered unsafe for swimming by the Michigan Department of Health, an official statement to that effect should be forthcoming. He further recommended that official Michigan Department of Health signs declaring the beach unsafe for public swimming, be erected. Members concurred in his request. Representative Sterling of Monroe expressed his concern about the conditions at the beach.

* * *

ROUGE RECREATION BOAT CLUB
174 Burke Street River Rouge 18, Michigan
Vinewood 2-3640

March 22, 1962

To Whom It May Concern:

The Rouge Recreation Boat Club fully endorses the stand the Lake Erie Clean-Up Committee has taken in the fight to eliminate the pollution of our waters.

The Detroit River and Rouge River are part of the boundaries of our city and are great contributors to our pollution problem. Industries along these two rivers have been operating outside the pollution laws for years unchecked. Due to the unchecked industries and municipalities, our waters are a cesspool for the collection of corruption of our State.

Wildlife is not abundant in our area as it was in years past. Breeding grounds have been destroyed by polluted water. Dead waterfowl are found in abundance along our shores.

We were once able to stand with our head high when fishing was talked about because we knew there was no better area than ours, but no more. The river now produces second rate fish, and when one is caught, it is not edible because of oil or chemical traces in the meat.

Boating is a hazardous sport today due to objects thrown in the water. Logs as large as telephone poles are not an uncommon sight when out for a boat ride.

Swimming is something of the past. Ear infection is very common to those who do venture into our waters for a swim.

The greatest of all the evils brought upon us by pollution is the threat of disease. In the past Hepatitis was almost unknown in our area. Today it is an everyday word. Typhoid, Skin Infection, Polio Myelitis and Menengitis are only a few of the diseases that are found to be lurking in the waters of our area.

Is our beautiful Water Wonderland to be destroyed by a few villainous individuals who have no respect for the laws and rights of his fellow man? We, the members of our club, will never willfully stand by while this takes place. We will continue to fight with every weapon at our disposal to put a stop to the destruction of our State's water.

(Signed) Billie K. Payne

Water Pollution Committee

* * *

STONY POINT PENINSULA ASSOCIATION

Route No. 2
Newport, Michigan

March 21, 1962

Mrs. Irene Finck
3003 - 11th Street
Detroit Beach Association
Monroe, Michigan

Dear Mrs. Finck:

Relative to your work with the Lake Erie Clean-Up Committee, we should like to register a complaint from residents of Stony Point Peninsula Association relative to pollution and unsightly conditions of our Lake Erie beaches.

The first is that raw sewage has been occasionally reported by our residents. The source of this contamination is not readily recognized, but the pollution danger is clearly evident and of the highest degree.

Another item which causes considerable concern to all the residents is the scum or residue that continues to pile up on our beaches. This is recognizable as a comparatively large, but light, particle size that deposits on our beaches, particularly on the beaches facing our prevailing winds. This scum is not only unsightly but contributes to the pollution of our waters and, furthermore, decreases considerably from the valuation of the general property in our area. As further evidence of this pollution, we have seen no walleyed pike in this area in the past five years and, in fact, except for perch there is a lack of all species that prefer to live and reproduce in relatively clean areas.

In view of these conditions, we would appreciate your bringing this to the attention of your committee for further action in cleaning up Lake Erie. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) C. F. Orloff, Secretary
Stony Point Peninsula Association

* * *

OIL, CHEMICAL AND ATOMIC WORKERS INTERNATIONAL UNION, AFL-CIO
TRENTON LOCAL NO. 7-456

A RESOLUTION ON THE TRENTON CHANNEL AND ANTIPOLUTION:

WHEREAS: Congressman John Lesinski has a proposal before Congress to deepen and extend the Trenton Channel into Lake Erie, and

WHEREAS: Such proposal would provide facilities for industrial expansion, thereby creating job opportunities and strengthening our national defense efforts, and

WHEREAS: Such job opportunities are much needed in this highly distressed employment area, and

WHEREAS: The use of the Detroit River and other existing natural resources is a privilege which should not be abused by industrial mismanagement, and

WHEREAS: Many industries located in the Detroit and Downriver areas have shown dollar expediency and utter contempt for the privilege of using these natural resources by dumping industrial wastes into the Detroit River, thereby destroying millions of dollars worth of recreational facilities, destroying fish and game, and turning the Detroit River and Lake Erie into a cesspool of industrial garbage, and

WHEREAS: These same industries, through air polution, have shown utter contempt for personal and community properties by turning some of these properties into industrial blights, and

WHEREAS: Existing controls have proven weak and ineffective in eliminating these abuses; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: Local 7-456, OCAW, vigorously supports the proposal to deepen and extend the Trenton Channel, and be it further

RESOLVED: Local 7-456, OCAW, urges the adopting of enforceable ordinances and legislation with penalties so severe it will eliminate these industrial blights and the needless destruction of our natural resources, and be it further

RESOLVED: Local 7-456, OCAW, urges all organizations, governing bodies, and interested citizens to support the Trenton Channel proposal and also to support appropriate Antipollution ordinances and legislation, and be it further

RESOLVED: Copies of this resolution be sent to Congressman John Lesinski, Senators Hart and McNamara, Governor John Swainson, Labor Organizations, Newspapers, and other interested organizations and citizens.

LOCAL 7-456, OCAW, AFL-CIO
(Signed) B. E. Henson, President
30478 Young Drive
Gibraltar, Michigan

The above resolution unanimously adopted by the membership of Local 7-456, OCAW, in a general membership meeting held on February 1, 1962.

* * *

## FOREWORD

During its December meeting the Committee on Physical Planning of the Supervisors Inter-County Committee considered a resolution adopted and submitted by the Monroe County Board of Supervisors, relating to conditions in the Lower Detroit River and Lake Erie resulting from sewage and industrial waste discharged into the river in the Detroit Metropolitan area. Chairman David R. Calhoun requested of John E. Vogt, Director of Engineering, Michigan Department of Health, that a report be prepared by the engineering staffs of the Department of Health and Michigan Water Resources Commission describing the measures undertaken in recent years for pollution control in this area. The attached report has been prepared primarily for this purpose. It is hoped that the information presented here may be of value to others who have interest in the extent and magnitude of pollutional control activity in this area and what has been achieved by its communities and industries.

## SOME SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND TRENDS IN POLLUTION CONTROL IN THE GREATER DETROIT METROPOLITAN AREA DURING THE PERIOD 1956-1962

Today the communities and industries in the Greater Detroit Metropolitan area are culminating a period of coordinated effort in pollution control. This is demonstrated by the number, type and magnitude of waste treatment works completed or scheduled for completion this year in all sections of this six county area. Most of the municipal installations will have reserves in capacity sufficient to meet the needs of anticipated growth until 1980 or later. Some are planned for ultimate development of the community.

Several trends in concept and practice are noteworthy. Important are the aggressive programs of the Water Resources Commission and State Health Department to provide motive, direction and control for this activity and the general acceptance and support of the basic concepts of the statutes which they administer. The acceptance of responsibility and recognition of the need for adequate waste collection and treatment has gained momentum in the last 10 years. The problem today common to municipal officials and industries is not whether these facilities should be installed but rather what is the best way to do the job and how can it be financed. Industries now accept the requirement to obtain approval of the Water Resources Commission for a new or increased use of the waters of the state for waste disposal before the waste is discharged. And they proceed to install the required waste treatment works on schedule. Similarly communities know they must install adequate treatment works approved by the State Health Department before their sewers will be approved by the Department and every community today wants public sewers. What's more significant, most communities have begun to plan to expand their treatment plants before--not after--they become overloaded.

The principle of a coordinated system of interceptor sewers serving several communities delivering sewage to a central treatment works has gained favor in the last decade in several new areas. The framework for such a system was developed in the mid-thirties by Detroit and Wayne County. During the past five years this system has been expanded and strengthened in major portions of the fast growing areas of Oakland County and Macomb County. Wayne County is almost wholly dependent upon three major and other minor systems of this kind. These coordinated multi-community facilities have removed most of the pollution from the lower end of Lake St. Clair. By June, 1962, pollution from sewage will be largely eliminated from all branches of the Rouge River. By these means health hazards and conditions of nuisance will be effectively reduced for large segments of the population.

Another important trend in this area is the general adoption of the practice of building separate sanitary sewer systems rather than sewers of the combined type carrying both sewage and storm water. Today all systems are of the separate type except in largely built-up areas where combined systems had been installed. This practice has eliminated overflows of sewage to streams during periods of surface water runoff, thereby greatly reducing the pollutional load. Consonant with this principle is the requirement imposed by the State Health Department for treatment of overflows from combined sewers. The projects at Farmington, Grosse Point-Harper Woods, and Southeastern Oakland County, listed in the summary statements of this report, will provide the degree of control required by the special conditions of the receiving waters.

The summary statements which follow indicate the actions taken by the State regulatory agencies for each project. Three types of action are noted, namely: promotional, includes many forms of educational and publicity activities, usually in cooperation with local community officials and organizations; orders or agreements; and restrictions on sewer construction pending assurance of the required facilities. Not reflected in these summaries are the efforts and active support and leadership provided within the community and by the press. These influences have become stronger and increasingly effective in recent years.

The magnitude and extent of pollution control projects are reflected in Tables I and II. These projects do not include the major construction work completed prior to 1957 but represent only projects recently completed or scheduled for construction. That the tempo of construction of control facilities throughout the area has been accelerated tremendously since 1959 is very evident. Equally obvious is the increased protection to the Lake Erie, Lake St. Clair, the Detroit River and the tributary streams which the facilities now under construction or to be commenced this year will provide when completed.

These facilities, however adequate, cannot do the job for which they are intended without competent operation. The quality of operational control in this area, and throughout the state, is widely recognized as second to none when compared with other states. Training, supervision of operating staffs, and certification of the plant superintendent as to competency by the State Health Department, as required by statute continually increases the dependability and quality of operation and maintenance in the treatment plants and other control facilities.

Increasing emphasis on effective disinfection for bacteriological control of effluents will assure improvements in water quality in the receiving waters as the new projects are completed and placed in operation. This is an important and significant trend in both present and future installations.

For the future many communities are preparing either by themselves or through county agencies, to assess future needs and how best to meet them. Several outstanding examples illustrate this trend. The City of Detroit is continuing to broaden its long range plan to serve the metropolitan area with waste transportation facilities. Wayne County, through its Department of Public Works, is planning how to extend its interceptor and treatment system for the entire county beyond 1980 to ultimate development. Oakland County, through its Department of Public Works, is planning facilities for the Clinton River and Huron Basins. Communities in the Huron River basin in Washtenaw County have adopted a water use management policy for the Lower Huron River. Thus the stage is being set to meet the needs of a growing dynamic society years in advance. This is a healthy and progressive approach which bids fair to continue the shift from corrective action to prevention--to be ahead rather than behind in pollution control.

Donald M. Pierce, Chief--Section of Sewerage and Sewage Treatment, Michigan Department of Health.

John E. Vogt, Director of Engineering, Michigan Department of Health.

F. B. Frost, Sanitary Engineer Water Resources Commission.

Loring F. Oeming, Chief Engineer, Water Resources Commission.

* * *

## PART I

## ACTIONS TAKEN AND PROGRESS MADE BY INDIVIDUAL COMMUNITIES TO CONTROL POLLUTION IN THE GREATER METROPOLITAN AREA

## 1957-1962

### LAKE ST. CLAIR

Sources of pollution are communities located along the lake shore and communities tributary to the Salt and Clinton Rivers.

### Shoreline Communities

The only community regularly discharging wastes directly to Lake St. Clair is New Baltimore. Mixtures of sewage and storm water discharge to the lake during periods of surface runoff from communities in Southeastern Macomb County and Northeastern Wayne County.

New Baltimore

| | |
|---|---|
| Facilities: | Sewage treatment plant (trickling filter type) completed December, 1961. Sanitary sewers (25 miles) and pumping stations completed concurrently. |
| Purpose: | To eliminate health hazards and nuisances created by failures of septic tank systems and direct discharges to creeks and lake. |
| State Action: | Program strongly urged by State Health |

Department who assisted in publicity and public meetings. Refused to issue permits for sewer construction until program assured.

Area Served: Entire city; 2,000 population.

Costs: About $1,500,000

Grosse Pointe Woods - Harper Woods

Facilities: Pumping station, storage and retention ponds and dewatering facilities for treatment of overflows from combined sewer system completed 1959. Eliminates overflows up to about a one year storm frequency.

Purpose: To eliminate local health hazards in stream and lake receiving overflows during periods of storm water runoff.

State Action: Michigan Department of Health promoted and fostered concept and withheld approval of construction of additional sewers until project was assured.

Area Served: 10 square miles; 40,000 population.

Costs: $6,318,950.

Wayne County Metropolitan Sewerage System

Northeast Interceptor District

| | |
|---|---|
| Facilities: | Additions and improvements of existing interceptor sewer with connection to Detroit for treatment. Under construction. |
| Purpose: | To increase capacity of interceptor to meet needs of expanding communities in the district. |
| State Action: | Michigan Department of Health withheld approval of sewer extensions in the district pending construction of the improvements. |
| Area Served: | Three communities in Macomb County and three communities in Wayne County; 200,000 population. |
| Costs: | $700,000. |

Salt River

New Haven

| | |
|---|---|
| Facilities: | Sewage treatment plant (trickling filter type) completed February, 1958. |
| Purpose: | To eliminate health hazards and nuisances in Salt River and Lake St. Clair. |
| State Action: | Michigan Department of Health withheld |

approval of Sewer extensions until an agreement between the Village and the Department was executed, calling for construction of treatment plant and sanitary interceptors in two years.

Area Served: Entire community; 1,100 population.

Costs: $135,000.

Richmond

Facilities: Additions to existing trickling filter sewage treatment plant completed December, 1961.

Purpose: Correct deficiencies of existing plant and provide capacity for growth.

State Action: Michigan Department of Health withheld approval of sewer extensions until agreement with Department executed by Village to construct plant improvements within 15 months.

Area Served: Entire community; 2,000 population.

Costs: $245,000.

### Clinton River

Almont

Facilities: Sewage treatment plant (trickling filter type) and sanitary interceptor completed March, 1958.

Purpose: To abate pollution of North Branch, Clinton River and eliminate health hazards caused by raw sewage discharges.

State Action: Michigan Department of Health and Water Resources Commission urged Village Council to initiate program.

Area Served: Entire community; 1,000 population.

Costs: $150,000.

Armada

Facilities: Sewage treatment plant (trickling filter type) and sanitary interceptor completed March, 1957.

Purpose: To abate pollution of Deer Creek, a tributary of the Clinton River, and to eliminate health hazards created by discharge of raw sewage.

State Action: Michigan Department of Health urged Village Council and general public to initiate project.

Area Served: Entire community; 1,000 population.

Costs: $272,000.

Centerline

Facilities: Interceptor sewer with connection to Detroit for treatment.

Purpose: To eliminate health hazards created by discharge of untreated sewage into Red Run.

State Action: Michigan Department of Health withheld approval of sewer construction pending adoption of program for construction of interceptor called for in agreement with the City.

Area Served: Entire city; 10,000 population.

Costs: $1,300,000.

Clinton Township (Macomb County)

Facilities: Sewage treatment plant (trickling filter type) and sanitary interceptor completed March, 1957. Additions to a second trickling filter plant were completed August, 1961.

Purpose: To permit development of the community without creating health hazards or unlawful pollution.

State Action: Sewer construction not permitted by Michigan Department of Health until adequate interceptor sewers and treatment facilities provided.

Area Served: Approximately 15 square miles; 15,000 population presently.

Costs: $2,425,000.

**Pontiac**

Facilities: A new sewage treatment plant (activated sludge type) presently under construction to supplement existing treatment facilities.

Purpose: To improve degree of treatment provided by existing facilities and add capacity for community growth in order to protect public health and prevent unlawful pollution.

State Action: Michigan Department of Health and Water Resources Commission urged City officials and general public to provide these facilities. When three referendums on financing the project failed, Water Resources Commission ordered City to abate pollution by proceeding immediately.

Area Served: Entire community of 90,000 and several large industries.

Costs: (Of present expansion) - $3,500,000.

**Rochester**

Facilities: Expansion of capacity of existing sewage treatment and addition of secondary treatment (activated sludge type).

Purpose: To improve degree of treatment provided by existing facilities and to add capacity for community growth in order to protect public health and prevent unlawful pollution.

State Action: Michigan Department of Health withheld approval of additional sewers until agreement executed between Village and Department to complete required improvements by April, 1962.

Area Served: Entire community and industries; population equivalent to about 8,000.

Costs: $250,000.

Romeo

Facilities: New sewage treatment plant (trickling filter type) to replace outmoded and inadequate existing plant currently planned.

Purpose: To eliminate existing health hazards and unlawful pollution of North Branch of Clinton River and provide capacity for community growth.

State Action: Litigation Michigan Department of Health versus Romeo commenced in Macomb County Circuit Court seeking an order requiring prompt construction.

Area Served: Entire community; 5,000 population.

Costs: $400,000.

Sterling Township (Macomb County)

Facilities: Construction under way for expansion of existing sewage treatment plant (activated sludge type).

Purpose: To provide adequate capacity and improved treatment to meet needs of rapid community growth without creating health hazards or unlawful pollution.

State Action: Project undertaken voluntarily by community, recognizing that the Michigan Department of Health would withhold permits for sewer extensions if project delayed.

Area Served: Presently, about 8,000 population. Expanded facility adequate for 20,000 population.

Costs: $300,000.

Southeastern Oakland County

Facilities: Auxiliary sanitary interceptor to deliver sewage from Southeastern Oakland County Sewage Disposal District to Detroit for treatment; and facilities for storage and retention of overflows from combined sewer system of the District with subsequent dewatering into the interceptor. Construction scheduled for mid-winter, 1962.

Purpose: To abate pollution and control health hazards and nuisances created by discharge of untreated sewage into Red Run Drain, a tributary of the Clinton River. A companion project for relief sewers in the same area (Twelve Towns Relief Sewer District), to be under construction concurrently, will relieve health hazards arising from flooding of basements and streets with mixtures of sewage and storm water.

State Action: Michigan Department of Health ordered the communities in the District and the County in 1957 to construct the facilities now programmed. Project delayed by extended litigation in Circuit and Supreme Courts over cost apportionment.

Area Served: About 50 square miles; 300,000 population.

| | |
|---|---|
| Costs: | $7,000,000 for interceptor and combined sewer overflow controls. $50,000,000 for relief sewers. |

Warren

| | |
|---|---|
| Facilities: | Trunk sewers and sewage treatment plant (activated sludge type) completed early 1960. |
| Purpose: | To control health hazards and unlawful pollution created by inadequate private systems and overflows of raw sewage to the Red Run Drain. |
| State Action: | Michigan Department of Health urged community to construct the facilities undertaken voluntarily. Health Department withheld permits for sewer construction until treatment plant completed. |
| Area Served: | 33 square miles; 100,000 population. |
| Costs: | $15,000,000 |

## ST. CLAIR RIVER

The sources of pollution are from the communities located along the river. The major communities include Port Huron, Marysville, St. Clair, Marine City, and East China Township, all of which have adequate treatment facilities to meet present and future anticipated needs.

## DETROIT RIVER SYSTEM

The sources of pollution are from the communities located along the river and its principle tributary, the Rouge River.

### Detroit River

**Detroit**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Facilities:** | Sewage treatment plant additions including additional sedimentation tanks and sludge handling facilities completed or under construction; extensions and improvements to interceptor sewer system continuing each year. |
| **Purpose:** | To provide immediate capacity in the treatment works to continue to serve the needs of the 45 municipalities presently tributary to the plant, thus making it possible for these communities to continue to develop; to prevent discharge of untreated sewage to Rouge and Detroit Rivers. |
| State Action: | Program to develop this integrated metropolitan sewerage system strongly urged and supported by Michigan Department of Health. Improved controls urged by Water Resources Commission. |

Area Served: 600 square miles; 3,000,667 population.

Costs: About $10,000,000.

Wayne County Metropolitan Sewerage and Sewage Disposal System (See Wyandotte and Trenton Plants)

Wyandotte Treatment Plant Service Area

Facilities: Plans completed for expansion of the sewage treatment plant and interceptor sewers serving 15 communities. Contracts for sewage disposal service by the County presently being negotiated.

Purpose: To eliminate health hazards and nuisances created by overloaded sewerage systems; to provide intercepting facilities to eliminate three existing sewage treatment plants incapable of adequate treatment; to provide capacity for future growth.

State Action: Michigan Department of Health withheld permits for sewer extensions in June, 1959, after due notice of impending healt hazards; Department ordered all communities June, 1960 to discontinue permitting additional connections to the already overloaded sewage system and urged communities and County agencies to accelerate relief program.

Area Served: 120 square miles; present population served 214,000.

Costs: $10,000,000.

Trenton Treatment Plant Service Area

Facilities: Plans for expansion to the sewage treatment plant at Trenton serving three communities completed and approved. Contracts for sewage disposal service by the County presently being negotiated with the three communities.

Purpose: To abate pollution and control health hazards and nuisances created by overloaded sewage treatment plant; to provide capacity for future growth.

State Action: Michigan Department of Health withheld permits for sewer extensions in June, 1959, after due notice of impending health hazards; Department ordered all communities June, 1960 to discontinue permitting additional connections to the already overloaded sewage system and urged communities and County agencies to accelerate relief program.

Area Served: 10 square miles; present population served 19,500.

Costs: $740,000.

Grosse Ile Drainage District

Facilities: Plans and specifications completed for a complete sewerage system and treatment plant to serve Grosse Ile Township.

Purpose: To eliminate health hazards created by inadequate treatment facilities serving portions of the Township which discharge into the Thoroughfare Canal in the Detroit River.

State Action: Michigan Department of Health filed findings with the Water Resources Commission of a health hazard being created by the discharge of sewage from certain County drains in the Township. Water Resources Commission petitioned the Drain Commissioner to take the necessary steps to eliminate the health hazard.

Area Served: Approximately eight square miles; present population served 3,000.

Costs: $2,408,100.

## Rouge River

### Dearborn

Facilities: Overloaded inadequate sewage treatment plant serving eastern portion of City abandoned 1959 by connection to Detroit. Overloaded plant serving remainder of City and three communities to be connected to Detroit by June, 1962.

Purpose: To eliminate unlawful pollution of the Rouge River by discharges of inadequate and overloaded treatment facilities.

State Action: Water Resources Commission held Statutory Hearing on a proposed order to eliminate unlawful pollution of the Rouge River. City submitted stipulation in lieu of order.

Area Served: Entire City; 112,000 population and 63,000 population in other communities now served by Dearborn.

Costs: $800,000.

### Rouge Valley Sanitary Sewage Interceptor

Facilities: This sanitary interceptor will provide service for 18 Wayne County and one Oakland County communities located along the lower and middle branches of the

Rouge River, Now under construction.

Purpose: To eliminate health hazards and nuisances created by the discharge of sewage into the lower and middle branches of the Rouge River and to permit continued development within the communities with adequate sewerage facilities.

State Action: Michigan Department of Health withheld permits for sewer extensions in June, 1959 after due notice of impending health hazards; Department ordered all communities June, 1960 to discontinue permitting additional connections to the already overloaded sewage system and urged communities and County agencies to accelerate relief program.

Area Served: Approximately 150 square miles.

Costs: $18,000,000.

Farmington and Evergreen-Farmington District

Facilities: Sanitary interceptors and trunks to deliver sewage from 12 communities in south-central Oakland County to Detroit for treatment. Major portion completed 1960, additional trunks under construction and more to be constructed in 1962.

Purpose: To abate pollution and control health hazards and nuisances created by the discharge of untreated or inadequately treated sewage into the various branches of the Rouge River and its tributaries.

State Action: Water Resources Commission ordered communities to abate pollution. Michigan Department of Health withheld approval of sewer extensions until facilities provided.

Area Served: About 130 square miles; 100,000 population.

Costs: $15,000,000.

Farmington

Facilities: Sanitary interceptor to Detroit for treatment; treatment of combined sewer overflows including settling, chlorination, and dewatering to interceptor. Completed 1958.

Purpose: To abate pollution and control health hazards and nuisances in the Rouge River.

State Action: Water Resources Commission ordered City to abate pollution; Michigan Department of Health withheld permits for extension of sewers.

Area Served: Entire City; 6,800 population.

Costs: $800,000.

## LAKE ERIE

Primary sources of pollution are from the major tributary streams including the Detroit River, Huron River, and Raisin River. The Detroit River has been covered elsewhere in this report.

### Huron River

Ann Arbor

Facilities: Report completed for expansion of existing sewage treatment plant (activated sludge type).

Purpose: To provide additional treatment capacity to meet the City's growing needs.

State Action: The Michigan Department of Health withheld approval for additional facilities pending the completion of a study of the water resources in the so-called Lower Huron portion of the basin and the adoption of a water use policy by the affected communities.

Area Served: Entire City; 90,000 population.

Costs: $3,000,000.

Brighton

Facilities: Sewage treatment plant additions (trickling filter type) completed 1960.

Purpose: To permit continued development of the expanding community.

State Action: Program undertaken voluntarily to permit continued development.

Area Served: Entire City; 2,280 population.

Costs: $221,442.

Chelsea

Facilities: Additions and replacements to sewage treatment plant (activated sludge type) completed 1960.

Purpose: To correct deficiencies in existing facilities and permit development of the community.

State Action: Michigan Department of Health withheld approval of sewer extensions. Sewer construction permitted after City agreed to construct additions to the treatment plant.

Area Served: Entire City; 3,350 population.

Costs: $233,299.

Dexter

Facilities: Plans completed for expansion and improvements to existing sewage treatment plant.

Purpose: To correct deficiencies in existing facilities and permit community growth.

State Action: Program strongly urged by the State Health Department following a survey of the existing sewage treatment facilities.

Area Served: Entire City; 1,700 population.

Costs: $85,000.

South Lyon

Facilities: Sewage treatment plant (activated sludge type) completed 1961 replacing obsolescent plant.

Purpose: To eliminate health hazards and nuisances created by the discharge of inadequately treated sewage from existing treatment facilities.

State Action: Michigan Department of Health withheld approval of sewer extensions. Sewer construction permitted after City agreed to construct additions to the treatment plant.

Area Served: Entire City; 1,750 population.

Costs: $345,592.

Ypsilanti

| | |
|---|---|
| Facilities: | Sewage treatment plant additions (activated sludge type) to existing plant to be constructed in 1962. |
| Purpose: | To improve degree of treatment provided by existing facilities and add capacity for community growth in order to protect public health and prevent unlawful pollution. |
| State Action: | The Michigan Department of Health withheld approval for additional facilities pending the completion of a study of the water resources in the so-called Lower Huron portion of the basin and the adoption of a water use policy by the affected communities. |
| Area Served: | 20,900 population. |
| Costs: | $1,500,000. |

Ypsilanti Township

| | |
|---|---|
| Facilities: | Plans for sewage treatment plant (activated sludge type) completed. Construction being delayed by litigation. |
| Purpose: | To make possible the continued development of the community. |

State Action: The Michigan Department of Health withheld approval for additional facilities pending the completion of a study of the water resources in the so-called Lower Huron portion of the basin and the adoption of a water use policy by the affected communities.

Area Served: 23,000 population.

Costs: $1,206,000.

### Raisin River

Monroe

Facilities: Report nearing completion on a study of the sewerage system and treatment facilities.

Purpose: To determine adequacy of facilities to meet expected future needs.

The other major communities in the basin including Dundee, Blissfield, Milan, Adrian, Tecumseh, Manchester, and Saline all have adequate treatment facilities to meet present and future expected needs.

Tables I and II are as follows:

## TABLE I

## SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN AND PROGRESS MADE TO CONTROL POLLUTION IN THE GREATER METROPOLITAN AREA

### 1957-1962

| Community | Facilities | Date Completed | Service Area Sq. Mi. | Service Area Pop. | Cost Millions |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **I. LAKE ST. CLAIR** | | | | | |
| **A. Shoreline Communities** | | | | | |
| New Baltimore | New sewage treatment plant--interceptors | Dec. 1961 | All | 2,000 | $ 1.50 |
| Grosse Pointe Woods and Harper Woods | Storage and treatment of overflows from combined sewers. | 1960 | 10 | 40,000 | 6.30 |
| Wayne Co. System-N.E. interceptor District | Increase capacity of existing interceptor | 1962 | 40 | 200,000 | 0.70 |
| **B. Salt River** | | | | | |
| New Haven | New sewage treatment plant--interceptor | Feb. 1958 | All | 1,100 | 0.13 |
| Richmond | Additions to sewage treatment plant | Dec. 1961 | All | 2,000 | 0.25 |
| **C. Clinton River** | | | | | |
| Almont | New sewage treatment plant--interceptor | Mar. 1958 | All | 1,000 | 0.15 |

| Community | Facilities | Date Completed | Sq. Mi. | Pop. | Cost Millions |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Armada | New sewage treatment plant--interceptor | Mar. 1957 | All | 1,000 | $ 0.27 |
| Center Line | New interceptor | 1962 | All | 10,000 | 1.3 |
| Clinton Township (Macomb Co.) | New sewage treatment plant No. 2--interceptor.<br>Additions to No. 1 | Mar. 1957<br>Aug. 1961 | 15 | 15,000 | 2.42 |
| Pontiac | Additions to sewage treatment plant | Under construction | All | 90,000 | 3.50 |
| S.E. Oakland Co. (14 communities) | Auxiliary interceptor to Detroit; storage & treatment of overflows from combined sewers. | Construction scheduled winter 1962 | 50 | 300,000 | 7.0 |
|  | Relief sewers |  | 50 | 300,000 | 50.0 |
| Warren | New S.T.P.--interceptors | Mar. 1960 | 33 | 100,000 | 15.0 |
| Rochester | Additions to S.T.P. | Apr. 1962 | All | 8,000 | 0.25 |
| Romeo | New S.T.P.--replacement | To commence | All | 5,000 | 0.40 |
| Sterling Twp. (Macomb Co.) | Additions to S.T.P. | Under constr. | Portion | 8,000 | 0.30 |
|  |  |  |  |  | $39.47 |

## II. DETROIT RIVER SYSTEM

### A. Detroit River

| Community | Facilities | Service Area | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Date Completed | Sq. Mi. | Pop. | Cost Millions |
| Detroit | Additions to sewage treatment plant & interceptors | 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961 | 600 | 3,000,000 | $10.0 |
| Wayne Co. System: Wyandotte | Additions to sewage treatment plant & interceptors | 1962-63 | 120 | 214,000 | 10.0 |
| Trenton | Additions to sewage treatment plant | 1962-63 | 10 | 19,500 | 0.75 |
| Grosse Ile Twp. | New S.T.P. & Interceptor | Planned | 8 | 3,000 | 2.4 |

### B. Rouge River

| Community | Facilities | Date Completed | Sq. Mi. | Pop. | Cost Millions |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dearborn | One sewage treatment plant abandoned and connected to Detroit. Second S.T.P. to be abandoned and connected to Detroit | 1959<br>1962 | All | 112,000 | 0.8 |
| Wayne Co. System: Rouge Valley (15 communities) | Additions to interceptors with connection to Detroit<br>Commenced: | Dec. 1961 | 150 | 250,000 | 18.0 |

| | | Service Area | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Community | Facilities | Date Completed | Sq. Mi. | Pop. | Cost Millions |
| Oakland Co. System: Evergreen-Farmington Dist. (12 communities) | New interceptor with connection to Detroit. (3 S.T.P. abandoned) | 1960 | 130 | 100,000 | $15.0 |
| Farmington | New interceptor with connection to Detroit; storage and treatment of overflows from combined sewers | 1958 | All | 7,000 | 0.8 |
| | | | | Total | $57.7 |

### III. HURON RIVER SYSTEM

| Community | Facilities | Date Completed | Sq. Mi. | Pop. | Cost Millions |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ann Arbor | Additions to S.T.P. | Scheduled 1963 | All | 90,000 | $ 3.00 |
| Chelsea | Additions to S.T.P. | 1960 | All | 3,350 | 0.23 |
| Dexter | Additions to S.T.P. | Scheduled 1962 | All | 1,700 | 0.10 |
| Brighton | Additions to S.T.P. | 1960 | All | 2,300 | 0.22 |
| South Lyon | Replacement of S.T.P. | 1961 | All | 1,750 | 0.35 |
| Ypsilanti | Additions to S.T.P. | Scheduled 1962 | All | 21,000 | 1.50 |
| Ypsilanti Township | Additions to S.T.P. | Scheduled 1962 | All | 70,000 | 1.20 |
| | | | | Total | $6.60 |

Total all basins - $103,820,000, not including relief sewers.

## TABLE II

## SUMMARY OF PROJECTS COMPLETED OR IN PROGRESS TO CONTROL POLLUTION IN THE GREATER METROPOLITAN AREAS 1957-1962

| | Completed | In progress or Scheduled for 1962 |
|---|---|---|
| **A. New Projects:** | | |
| Number of new projects for plants and interceptors | 9 | 4 |
| Number of communities served | 21 | 4 |
| Area served (sq. miles) | 200 | 25 |
| Population served | 270,000 | 130,000 |
| Cost | $ 39.5 Million | $ 4.9 Million |
| **B. Additions:** | | |
| Number of projects for additions to existing plants and interceptors | 5 | 12 |
| Number of communities served | 5 | 72 |
| Area served (sq. miles) | 20 | 450 |
| Population served | 23,000 | 1,272,000 |
| Cost | * $ 13.12 Million | $ 46.3 Million |

Note: *Includes projects at Detroit estimated at over $10,000,000 serving Detroit and about 50 communities in a 300 sq. mile area serving 3,000,000 people.

## PART II

## ACTIONS TAKEN ON PROGRESS MADE BY INDUSTRIES TO CONTROL POLLUTION IN THE GREATER DETROIT METROPOLITAN AREA

## LAKE ST. CLAIR

Sources of industrial waste are located along the Clinton River and its tributaries.

### Clinton River

Briggs Manufacturing Company

Type of Wastes: Industrial process wastes and sanitary sewage.

State Action: Order of Determination adopted by Water Resources Commission in September, 1956 establishing restrictions on polluting content of discharges.

Approved facilities for treatment of sewage and wastes provided.

Reliable cost data not available.

Chrysler Corporation, Defense Operation Division

Type of wastes: Toxic chemicals resulting from electroplating operations.

State Action: Order of Determination adopted in June, 1958 by Water Resources Commission sets limits on concentration of toxic chemicals in wastes and requires

precautionary facilities inside plant
to prevent accidental losses to sewers.

Approved facilities for treatment and control of wastes provided.

Reliable cost data not available.

**Cross Company**

Type of Wastes: Machine oil wastes and sanitary sewage.

State Action: Order of Determination adopted by Water Resources Commission requires control of process wastes and complete treatment of sewage by Company.

Approved facilities for treatment of sewage provided.

Reliable cost data not available.

**Ford Motor Company (Bruce's Township, Macomb County)**

Type of Wastes: Sanitary sewage.

State Action: Order of Determination by Water Resources Commission adopted in January, 1956 requires complete treatment of sewage by Company.

Approved sewage treatment facilities provided.

Reliable cost data not available.

**National Machine Products**

Type of Wastes: Industrial process wastes.

State Action: Order of Determination adopted by Water Resources Commission sets restrictions on objectionable components.

Approved waste control facilities provided.

Reliable cost data not available.

Robins Products Company

Type of Wastes: Toxic chemicals resulting from mechanical plating operations.

State Action: Order of Determination adopted by Water Resources Commission limits toxic components in wastes and requires protective facilities in plant to prevent accidental losses to sewer.

Plans for control facilities approved.

Reliable cost data not available.

Sparton Products

Type of Wastes: Sanitary sewage.

State Action: Order of Determination adopted by Water Resources Commission in December, 1959 requires complete treatment of sewage by Company.

Approved treatment facilities provided.

Reliable cost data not available.

## ST. CLAIR RIVER SYSTEM

Stewart Cunningham's Fisherman's Wharf

Type of Wastes: Sanitary sewage and restaurant wastes.

State Action: Order of Determination adopted by

Water Resources Commission in March, 1959 requires treatment and disinfection of all sewage and wastes.

Approved treatment facilities provided.

Reliable cost data not available.

Marysville Plating Company

Type of Wastes: Toxic chemicals resulting from electroplating operations.

State Action: Order of Determination adopted by Water Resources Commission restricts toxic components in wastes and requires protective facilities inside plant to prevent accidental loss to sewer.

Approved control facilities provided.

Reliable cost data not available.

Dunn Paper Company

Type of Wastes: Caustic wastes resulting from bleaching operations.

State Action: After conference with Commission, Company voluntarily took necessary steps to control waste to eliminate the killing of minnows downstream.

Reliable cost data not available.

Diamond Crystal Salt Company

Type of Wastes: Sanitary sewage.

State Action: Contacts by Water Resources Commission staff resulted in voluntary action by Company to collect sewage for discharge to municipal system for treatment.

Reliable cost data not available.

DETROIT RIVER SYSTEM

The sources of industrial pollution are located along the river and its principle tributary, the Rouge River.

Detroit River

Allied Chemical Corporation, Semet-Solvay Division

Type of Wastes: Phenolic compounds resulting from coke oven operations.

State Action: Following conference with Commission, Company voluntarily provided phenol recovery facilities.

Reliable cost data not available.

Dana Corporation

Nicholson Terminal and Dock

Great Lakes Engineering Works

Type of Wastes: Sanitary sewage.

State Action: Following conference with Commission, the three industries made joint project for connecting sanitary sewage to Wayne County system for treatment.

Reliable cost data not available.

E. I. duPont de Nemours & Company

Type of Wastes: Process wastes resulting from manufacture of sulphuric acid.

State Action: Order of Determination adopted in February, 1956 by Commission limits acidity in waste discharges.

Approved control facilities provided.

Reliable cost data not available.

Great Lakes Steel Corporation, Rolling Mills (Ecorse)

Type of Wastes: Oil and mill scale.

State Action: Following conference with Commission, Company agreed to provide facilities for removing oil and mill scale from wastes.

Approved facilities provided.

Estimated cost approximately $1,000,000.

Great Lakes Steel Corporation, 80 inch Mill (River Rouge)

Type of Wastes: Oil and mill scale.

State Action: Order of Determination adopted by Commission in June, 1959 restricts oil, iron, acidity and solids in waste discharges.

Approved facilities for control provided.

Reliable cost data not available.

McLouth Steel Corporation (Trenton)

Type of Wastes: Blast furnace and rolling mill process wastes.

State Action: Order of Determination adopted by Commission restricts oil, acidity, solids and iron in waste discharges.

Approved facilities now completed.

Estimated cost for 1961 additions to treatment system $1,100,000.

McLouth Steel Corporation (Gibraltar)

Type of Wastes: Steel processing wastes.

State Action: Order of Determination adopted by Water Resources Commission in March, 1956 limits oil and acidity in Company discharges.

Approved treatment and control facilities provided.

Reliable cost data not available.

Mobil Oil Company

Type of Wastes: Oil refinery process wastes.

State Action: Contacts by Water Resources Commission staff resulted in new additions to oil recovery system.

Estimated cost of treatment system additions approximately $200,000.

Shawinigan Resins Corporation

Type of Wastes: Chemical processing wastes.

State Action: Order of Determination adopted by Water Resources Commission in January, 1956 limits acidity in waste discharges.

Approved control facilities provided.

Reliable cost data not available.

### Rouge River

Ford Motor Company (Dearborn)

Type of Wastes: Phenolic compounds resulting from the operation of coke ovens.

State Action: Order of Determination adopted by Water Resources Commission in January, 1956 limits amounts of phenol discharged to river.

Approved facilities for disposal of excess phenol provided.

Reliable cost data not available.

Mills Products Corporation (formerly Baux Corporation)

Type of Wastes: Toxic chemicals resulting from electroplating operations.

State Action: Statutory Hearing scheduled. Company submitted stipulation in lieu of Hearing.

Approved control facilities provided.

Reliable cost data not available.

Trilex Corporation

Type of Wastes: Toxic chemicals resulting from electroplating operations.

State Action: Contacts by Water Resources Commission staff resulted in voluntary action by Company to provide needed treatment and control facilities.

Reliable cost data not available.

## LAKE ERIE

Primary sources of industrial wastes are located on major tributary streams including the Detroit River, Huron River and Raisin River. The Detroit River sources covered above.

### Huron River

Belleville Plating Company

Type of Wastes: Toxic chemicals resulting from electroplating operations.

State Action: Order of Determination adopted by Water Resources Commission in May, 1958 establishing restrictions on polluting content of waste discharges.

Approved facilities for treating and controlling wastes provided.

Reliable cost data not available.

Ford Motor Company (Novi Township)

Type of Wastes: General processing wastes resulting from automobile assembly.

State Action: Order of Determination adopted by Water Resources Commission in April, 1956 establishing restrictions on polluting content of waste discharges.

Approved facilities for treating and controlling wastes provided.

Reliable cost data not available.

Hoover Ball and Bearing Company (Pittsfield Township, Washtenaw County)

Type of Wastes: Sanitary sewage.

State Action: Order of Determination adopted by Water Resources Commission in February, 1956 requires complete treatment and disinfection of sewage flows.

Approved sewage treatment facilities provided.

Reliable cost data not available.

Hoover Ball and Bearing Company (Saline)

Type of Wastes: Toxic chemicals resulting from electroplating operations.

State Action: Order of Determination adopted by Water Resources Commission in March, 1959 establishing restrictions on polluting content of discharges.

Approved treatment and control facilities provided.

Reliable cost data not available.

### Raisin River

**Buckeye Products Corporation**

Type of Wastes: Toxic chemicals resulting from electroplating operations.

State Action: Court Order obtained by Water Resources Commission in 1957 establishes restrictions on polluting content of wastes.

Approved facilities for treating and controlling wastes provided.

Reliable cost data not available.

**Consolidated Paper Company, South Side Division**

Type of Wastes: Paper mill process wastes.

State Action: Contact by Water Resources Commission staff resulted in Company stipulation to provide for additional treatment.

Mill changes and improved treatment facilities resulted in marked reduction of polluting content in wastes.

Reliable cost data not available.

**Ford Motor Company (Monroe)**

Type of Wastes: Toxic chemicals resulting from electroplating operations.

State Action: Order of Determination adopted by Water

Resources Commission in April, 1956 establishing restrictions on waste discharges.

Approved treatment and control facilities provided.

Reliable cost data not available.

Garnsey-Dillon Company

| | |
|---|---|
| Type of Wastes: | Waste waters resulting from the canning of tomatoes. |
| State Action: | Final Order adopted by Water Resources Commission in April, 1957 establishing limits on polluting content of wastes. |

Approved disposal facilities provided. Company subsequently discontinued operations.

Reliable cost data not available.

* * *

Article from: The American Home, August, 1961

WILL THERE BE GARBAGE CANS ON THE MOON?

It seems to us incredible that it should be illegal to use what many women call the most convenient appliance in the kitchen--the garbage disposer. Yet this appliance is prohibited by ordinance in at least 65 major cities across the nation.

If your community is one of these, with streets and alleys decorated with garbage cans, only your forceful appeal can put the wheels in motion to do something about it. For one thing, municipal costs of collection and disposal have more than doubled in the past ten years. How much more wisely this money might be used to update sewage and sanitation methods which in turn would make garbage disposers possible.

Garbage cans are dispensable! Communities of every size, all over the country, have proved it by passing ordinances to make disposers mandatory in new houses and nearly so in existing homes. These communities have recognized the garbage disposer as an ally in a fight for better sanitation. They've reduced the menace of rats, flies, and germs. They've converted valuable land from city dumps into municipal parks or housing areas.

Whether a city requires residents to use garbage disposers or simply allows for their use by establishing installation standards, it has made a major step forward in the fight against unsanitary conditions and disease.

Is your community one which recognizes the advantages of such equipment or are you bound by antiquated codes and laws? We are living in the space age, yet it is conceivable that the first mission to the moon could be delayed while the astronaut carries the garbage from his home before embarking.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT

Learn which department of your city government is responsible for ordinances on waste disposal. Form committees to review these ordinances and suggest methods of creating a garbage-free community.

Seek the advice of master-plumber and electrical-contractor associations, builders, architects, appliance-dealers associations, and water and power utilities. These groups can offer protection to the home owner from the usual efforts to sell substandard materials and equipment and will insure installation under recognized standards.

In Detroit the mayor initiated an all-out campaign to clean up the city. An ordinance requiring disposers was passed, and supported by three important steps: 1. Costs of city electrical and plumbing permits were reduced, an incentive for owners of existing homes. 2. A municipal testing laboratory issued a list of approved disposers, including eight brands. 3. Easy financing arrangements were worked out with banks and the FHA.

Similar plans have been adopted by communities of all sizes from Portland, Maine, to Los Angeles County, California.

Reasons for passing such ordinances vary widely. Lodi, Wisconsin, was suddenly faced with a problem when their garbage could no longer be used as hog feed. Their choice: buy land for a dump build an incinerator, or devise a better plan. They decided on disposers, bought by the city, sold at cost to residents, and installed at their own expense. The city handled the financing of disposers as well as servicing defective units. Purchase was optional, but with garbage collection discontinued (saving Lodi $3000 a year), those lacking disposers had to get rid of garbage as best they could.

Jasper, Indiana, illustrates dramatically how a small town can benefit by adopting a disposer plan. It began with an epidemic of cholera among garbage-fed hogs in the area. This meant an obvious end to this garbage disposal method. Jasper chose to require garbage disposers in homes. Thus in 1949 Jasper became the world's first garbage-free community. An extensive study by the U.S. Public Health Service revealed these findings: 1. No noticeable increase in water consumption. 2. No harmful effect on sewers. 3. Noticeable reduction in rodent and fly infestation. But more important than these and other technical findings, perhaps, is the fact that Jasper has had a decline in disease since 1949!

## WHY SOME TOWNS PROHIBIT DISPOSERS

Reason: Garbage disposers create an extra load on city sewage systems, since they use water, and the cost of purifying extra water-borne waste may be more than collection by truck. Fact: In most cases the only effect of disposers on any sewage system would be to emphasize existing inadequacies that need correction. Reason: Cities now trying to abate pollution of local water sources feel garbage disposers would add to pollution unless purification systems were improved. Fact: In most communities growing populations will soon require such improvements even without disposers.

Some antiquated city sewage systems simply could not handle the extra waste sludge created by a garbage disposer in every home, so they forbid disposers entirely instead of spending more wisely to provide for additional waste. Gather such facts to support your crusade for the right to use a garbage disposer in your kitchen. We're behind you all the way!

THE EDITOR

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much for a comprehensive and full statement. Are there any comments or questions? If not, Dr. Heustis.

DR. HEUSTIS: I have a statement I would like to place in the record, a letter dated March 20, 1962, from the Monroe Auto Equipment Company over the signature of George M. Streicher.

(The letter is as follows:)

MONROE AUTO EQUIPMENT COMPANY

Monroe, Michigan

March 20, 1962

G. M. Streicher
Vice President of Manufacturing
and Assistant to President

"Mr. Milton P. Adams,
Executive Secretary,
Water Resources Commission
200 Mill Street,
Lansing, Michigan.

"Dear Mr. Adams:

"With reference to Mr. W. D. McIntyre's correspondence with you on March 9, in which he indicated that I would be the representative of our company to attend the meeting on Tuesday, March 27, in the Veterans Memorial Building, I would like to outline the pollution problems that are the greatest concern to us in this area.

"1. Because of the posting of the Sterling State Park by government agency last summer which prohibited swimming in Lake Erie at that park, it has deprived many young people of the benefits that are derived from swimming, while we are so proud of our 'Water Wonderland' slogan.

"2. Inasmuch as there will still be swimming in other areas adjacent to Sterling State Park, the health risk, I know you will appreciate, is still very great.

"3. Monroe has embarked on a very active campaign to develop its port facilities, and as a result it must have a channel into the port basin for the entry of large freighters. Because of the contamination that is constantly being emptied into the River Raisin, it would mean almost constant dredging to keep this channel at its proper depth unless steps are taken to eliminate the contamination at the source.

"4. Property owners at the beach areas are finding the value of their property depreciating rapidly because of the contamination of the waters in Lake Erie, for with the waters polluted and swimming not recommended it certainly reduces the interest in this kind of property.

"The above are, in our opinion, some of the major reasons action should be taken immediately to eliminate this contaminated condition. We hope that every effort will be expended to further this end.

"Very truly yours,

/s/ Geo. M. Streicher."

- - -

DR. HEUSTIS: I also have a statement I would place in the record, from the City of Monroe, from the office of Mayor Lawrence A. Frost, dated March 26, 1962.

(The letter referred to is as follows:

Water Resources Commission
200 Mill Street - Station B
Lansing 13, Michigan
Attention: Mr. Milton P. Adams, Executive Secretary

Gentlemen:

The City of Monroe has recognized the ever increasing problem of pollution and has tried in the past to cooperate with the Water Resources Commission and Health Department of the State of Michigan to reduce all forms of detrimental pollution in the River Raisin.

In late 1961, the Commission of the City of Monroe authorized the firm of Finkbeiner, Pettis and Strout of Toledo, Ohio to study and report back with recommendations, improvements to our sewerage and sewage treatment facilities. They were requested to not only study the area within the City limits of Monroe, but to extend their study to the maximum beyond the City, considering topographical limitations, estimated population densities, economic aspects and other factors.

This report was completed and submitted to the City Commission last month for their approval and acceptance.

We feel that through the guidance of this report the City of Monroe cannot only improve facilities within the City t reduce pollution, but is also in a position to cooperate with adjacent areas if they desire to take advantage of our facilities in reducing their pollution problems.

It should be pointed out that the City of Monroe was advised in the report of Finkbeiner, Pettis and Strout that "the sanitary sewage of the City is being adequately treated and the goals which were established at the time of the Sewage Treatment Plant construction, are being achieved."

We welcome discussion with any agency, whether Federal, State or local in offering our facilities for the reduction of the pollution problem so long as it is on a sound economical and engineering basis.

Through these means, the City of Monroe feels that it has done everything possible within its own power to help correct the pollution problems of the area.

We also recognize that through support of the Federal Health Department, the State is now in a better position to carry out their programs of pollution control and reduction at a much earlier date.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Lawrence A. Frost
Lawrence A. Frost
Mayor)

DR. HEUSTIS: I have a letter from the Monroe County Health Department. Dr. **Barrett** is here. Dr. Barrett, do you wish to place this in the record or add to it?

STATEMENT OF C. D. BARRETT, SR., M. D.,
DIRECTOR, MONROE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
MONROE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, MONROE, MICHIGAN

DR. BARRETT: I do. I would like to have a couple of minutes to explain this matter.

DR. HEUSTIS: You may have three.

THE CHAIRMAN: Would you identify yourself first?

DR. BARRETT: Dr. C. D. Barrett, Director of the Monroe County Health Department. I thought maybe it would be well for you all to see the bald-headed man that was down on the firing line in Monroe County. This is not necessarily part of the record.

THE CHAIRMAN: I think it would be useful for the record, if you don't mind.

DR. BARRETT: I have no objection to it. We have a population of about 101,000. We have approximately twenty-seven or twenty-eight thousand population that have sewage facilities that are reasonably adequate.

In the last five or six years we have, in accordance with our sanitary code, supervised the installation of some five or six thousand new septic tank tile field installations. We believe that these are reasonably adequate but recognize that septic tank tile field installations are a poor second choice to good municipal sewerage systems.

We have been steadily whittling down those houses that have inadequate facilities. However, there are probably some 30,000 or more population that would benefit by having municipal sewers and sewage treatment. Perhaps as much as fifteen to twenty thousand of this population is adding some pollution to Lake Erie. I don't mean by that that that many homes are sending raw sewage, untreated, directly into the Lake. Please make that clear.

This fifteen or twenty thousand have some sewage, some of it not treated and some of it only inadequately treated, and some of it not reaching the Lake directly but traveling several miles before reaching the Lake, and I am sure it is not adding greatly to the pollution.

Inasmuch as I am speaking for the record, may I add one word about hepatitis? We have made a study, an epidemiological study, assisted by the University of Michigan, School of Public Health, as to the possible means of the spread of what was our high incidence of hepatitis. We are no longer near the top. Let that be a part of the record, too. There is no evidence in this study that our hepatitis was waterborne or was related to polluted private wells, and certainly not due to any public water supplies.

Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Dr. Barrett. Your prepared statement will be made a part of the record.

(The letter by Dr. Barrett, dated March 22, 1962 is as follows:

Mr. Milton P. Adams
Executive Secretary
Water Resources Commission
200 Mill Street,
Station B,
Lansing 13, Michigan

Dear Dr. Adams:

Thank you so much for your letter of invitation to the Detroit River-Lake Erie Conference. We definitely plan to attend the meeting.

Last January 23, we submitted to the U. S. Public Health Service, at their request, a tabulation showing the extent of domestic waste disposal problems in the County of Monroe. Our tabulation shows that some 6300 homes, representing about 20,000 people, are causing a potential public health hazard in the County. This represents nearly 25 percent of the total population of Monroe County. Indeed, our pollution problem is critical.

We do want to report something of what we have already corrected and what steps we are now taking to further correct these potential public health hazards. Our records show that we have, in the past eight years, corrected pollution conditions originating from some 1000 homes along Lake Erie. These were obvious corrections easily made as one could see the waste discharging into the ditch in front of the home. For the most part, these types of situations are now corrected. What remains to be corrected, for the most part, are the numerous small communities connected directly or indirectly to storm sewer drains and discharging into nearby streams without treatment facilities.

This later condition is most difficult to correct. Much time is needed to determine in a small community, the ones that are connected to a storm sewer system. Dye tests are, to our knowledge, the best way to make such a determination, but this process is very slow, requiring more personnel than we now have.

It is realized that septic tanks and tile fields, regardless of the quality of construction, are a poor second choice to a central sewerage disposal system. There may be occasions, however, in a community where they need to use individual on-site waste disposal systems instead of a community system. Whatever the community may choose, it is their decision, knowing full well they may need to duplicate capital expenditure through the construction of a central sewerage disposal system at some later date.

Further, our department is now working towards the creation of a County Department of Public Works, together with a regulation requiring that most new subdivision developments must be on a central sewerage disposal system. Also many communities are upgrading their present zoning laws on lot sizes where septic tank and tile field systems are to be installed.

Again, we know there are serious sewage disposal problems here in the County of Monroe. Much effort is being expended to search for new tools and methods to correct the problem considerably faster than we have been able to do in the past years. Indeed, we are encouraged by the awareness and response of the many groups toward helping to correct our present, as well as our potential future waste disposal problems.

Very sincerely yours,
/s/ C. D. Barrett
C. D. Barrett, Sr., M. D.
Director'

DR. HEUSTIS: We have a statement from Mr. Victor F. Kane, President of the Monroe County Rod and Gun Club. Mr. Kane, do you wish to amplify that?

MR. KANE: Dr. Heustis, as the note states, William J. Phelan is making that statement.

DR. HEUSTIS: I beg your pardon, Mr. Phelan.

STATEMENT OF WILLIAM J. PHELAN,
PUBLICATIONS CHAIRMAN, MONROE COUNTY ROD AND
GUN CLUB, 6280 LIGHTHOUSE ROAD, P.O.BOX NO. 1,
MONROE, MICHIGAN

MR. PHELAN: Mr. Chairman, my name is Bill Phelan. I am acting today as spokesman of that organization.

"Since 1942, the Monroe County Rod & Gun Club has recognized the problem of Water Pollution -- particularly the pollution which exists in the Monroe area. During these twenty years, we have had an active Anti-Pollution Committee. The members of the committee have spent a great deal of their own personal time, effort, and money trying to combat the growing menace of pollution. This committee has worked diligently, sometimes under extremely unfavorable conditions, acquiring and testing samples of polluted water, contacting many of the individuals and industries responsible for the pollution, and alerting and educating the people of Monroe County as to the dangers of this problem. Frequently we have been instrumental in effecting remedies.

"Until the formation of the Lake Erie Cleanup Committee our club has worked on anti-pollution in our area almost single handed. Despite our efforts, the past two decades has seen the pollution condition go steadily from bad to worse. Last summer, the beaches at Sterling State Park, located just outside the City of Monroe, had to be closed because of uncontrolled pollution -- pollution caused by municipal sewage and industrial wastes.

"Why are we concerned? In our back yard is the world's 12th largest inland fresh water body -- Lake Erie -- with 9,540 square miles of water -- but no longer 'fresh.' Over and above its recreational and industrial uses, we drink Lake Erie water. Because of pollution this water must now be so thoroughly impregnated with chlorine that it tastes less and less like water each day, and more and more like medicine. To paraphrase a line from the old classic 'The Rhyme of the Ancient Mariner,' Monroe County is truly faced with 'water, water everywhere, and not a decent drop to drink.'

"As our club's committee has carried on its fight against pollution we have prayed for some effective measure of control -- some assistance from those State agencies responsible for the protection of our water resources and for the health and welfare of ourselves and our neighbors. The evidence of any concrete achievement is indeed little and wanting. For a water wonderland and an area where tourism is so vitally important to our economy, it is a sorry situation, indeed. Ironically, conditions have deteriorated to such an extent that the Federal Departmont of Health, Education, and Welfare has had to step into our pollution control program.

"Certainly our club and all serious-minded citizens welcome this interest and assistance. The citizens of Michigan need the assistance of every agency -- every medium that might be put at our disposal. We are hopeful and anxious that something be done to ameliorate this very, very serious problem which threatens our very existence.

"The Monroe County Rod & Gun Club is very concerned about State agencies now wanting to sit idly by and let 'Uncle Sam' carry the ball. The presence of the Federal Government in this program does not give them any such license. Rather, we pray that the efforts of our State and local agencies now be doubled and redoubled. This is their opportunity to clear up our water pollution problem. To some extent, we are all guilty of contributing to the situation and, as such, we should all be willing to take the necessary steps to eliminate the problem. We realize that the cost will be great, but these costs won't be one cent cheaper tomorrow, or next year, or five or twenty years hence. The longer we delay corrective action, the more staggering will be the costs of correction.

"During the course of this conference, you have heard of many specific instances wherein filth in our waters has created a very serious health menace, spreading such dread diseases as hepatitis, typhoid, polio, et cetera.

"Epidemiologists with their coliform counts may tell us that history does not record any instances where communities have died out as a result of polluted water. This may be true. Let's not spoil the historical record, and let's not be lulled into any false sense of security. It does not make good sense to wantonly destroy our God-given water supply, to intentionally spread serious diseases, to create water shortages in the midst of plenty. Something must be done, and done now. This is the only way in which we can conserve and protect what is probably our most important natural resource -- water.

"We must educate the public to the inherent dangers which are even now on our very doorstep. Government, business industry, and individuals must be told the whole unsavory story -- what has happened to the waters of Michigan during the past several decades, what is likely to happen if corrective measures are not promptly taken, as well as details of the measures that each of us can take to eliminate this insidious condition. With a sincere united effort, the Monore County Rod & Gun Club firmly believes that we can prevent our Water Wonderland from becoming a Water Wasteland. To accomplish this, we must take forceful action now.

"Respectfully submitted,

"MONROE COUNTY ROD AND GUN CLUB

/s/ Victor F. Kane
Victor F. Kane, President

/s/ K. R. Thompson
K. R. Thompson, Chairman of the Board

/s/ W. R. Brewer

W. R. Brewer, District Representative

/s/ Russell E. Waugh

Russell E. Waugh, Director

/s/ C. W. 'Ted" Hoffman

C. W. 'Ted' Hoffman, Chairman
Anti-Pollution Committee

/s/ Fred Peterson

Fred Peterson, Chairman of
Legislation

/s/ William J. Phelan

William J. Phelan, Publications
Chairman."

(Applause.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Phelan. Are there any comments or questions?

(No response.)

THE CHAIRMAN: If not, Dr. Heustis.

DR. HEUSTIS: I would like to call Mr. Lawrence M. Braun of the Anti-Pollution Committee of the Wayne County Sportsmen's Club.

## STATEMENT OF LAURENCE M. BRAUN,
## 12629 MANOR BOULEVARD, DETROIT, MICHIGAN,
## CHAIRMAN, ANTI-POLLUTION COMMITTEE, WAYNE COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

MR. BRAUN: Mr. Chairman, honorable conferees and distinguished guests:

For the record, my name is Laurence M. Braun. I reside at 12625 Manor Boulevard in Detroit, and I am here today in my capacity as Chairman of the Anti-Pollution Committee of the Wayne County Sportsmen's Club.

I would like to state that I consider it a privilege to appear before this distinguished conference, and that I am pleased to discover that persons other than sportsmen are becoming interested in the problems of water quality control.

If Greater Detroit is to continue as a population center and a major industrial complex, the water systems supplying its homes and factories must have a pollution-free source; if Michigan is to continue to be a state of hunters and fishermen, the water leaving the area must be of similar quality.

It is primarily the responsibility of the municipalities and industrial concerns to insure the quality of water entering western Lake Erie. We should not be so quick to condemn other metropolitan areas for water diversion when we dump large quantities of pollutants into the world's most abundant source of fresh water, the Detroit River.

Through the eyes of a sportsman, I can see the increasing need for pollution abatement in this area. At a time when the population of ducks is at an all-time low due to the lack of water in the prairie provinces of Canada, we are cutting further into the breeding stock by polluting our abundant supply of water where these desirable species: canvasbacks, redheads, scaup, blacks, and mallards, spend the winter.

At the present time when the worker is required to spend less hours per week on the job, and consequently has more leisure time, the recreational water resources at his disposal are dwindling. Waterways formerly available for pleasure boating and water skiing are now considered to contain excessive amounts of coliform bacteria, creating a health hazard to present users.

The sport and commercial fishermen are confronted with a reduction of desirable species, and an increase of the less desirable noxious and rough fish, due to a reduction of oxygen content in the water, and a gradual silting in of the river and lake beds, where the desirable species feed and breed. Gone, perhaps forever, are the blue and northern pike, the ciscoes, and the black bass. Replacing them are the carp, garpike, and dogfish.

I realize that it is impossible to remove all pollution downstream from a population center and industrial complex the size of the greater Detroit area, but we must take steps to abate the present volume of pollutants now discharged, if we are to insure for future generations the continued use of this area for recreation, residence, and industry.

Wildlife and industry can exist in the same area, but only if industry lives up to its responsibility as a water user. Municipalities must likewise live up to their responsibility to abate the concentrations of suspended solids, bacteria, and glycerial oils they discharge into the Detroit River and its tributaries, for the water we use, treat, and discard is re-used by cities on the lower Great Lakes. We cannot condemn Sarnia, Ontario for contaminating our water supply when we direct our human wastes in the direction of Toledo and Cleveland, Ohio.

In conclusion, may I emphasize the increasing need there will be for an uncontaminated source of fresh water in future years and future generations. We, the citizens of Michigan, have too often derelicted our obligation to abate water pollution. If we are to preserve this most widely used natural resource, fresh water, we must act now, not five years from now. Without the cooperation of each and every municipality, industry, and home owner, the interest of the majority and the honest efforts of conservationists will be in vain.

Thank you. (Applause.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Braun. We know you work at night, and we appreciate your giving up your sleep to attend the conference and give us your views. Dr. Heustis.

DR. HEUSTIS: I have been advised that the conference recorder has received a statement from the Monroe County Board of Supervisors, which will be made a part of the record.

(The statement of the Monroe County Board of Supervisors is as follows:

County Supervisor:
Karl Stasne
County Auditor:
J. Emmett Kirby
County Clerk:
Beth Ann Winters
County Treasurer:
Edward A. Mahn
Drain Commissioner:
Donald W. Burton

Director Civil Defense:
S. M. Broadus
Prosecuting Attorney:
Charles J. Golden
Register of Deeds:
Roy Moore
Sheriff:
Charles G. Harrington
Surveyor:
Angelo Marino

COUNTY OF MONROE,
Monroe, Michigan

March 27, 1962

Gentlemen:

The Lake Erie Committee, since appointment in September, 1961, has inquired of the Michigan Health Department, the Michigan Conservation Department and the Water Resources

Commission, to develop and understand the facts surrounding the posting in August of 1961 of Sterling State Park by the Michigan Conservation Department with Michigan Health Department signs, declaring that the Lake Erie waters are unsafe for swimming. The Committee finds:

1. That the posting by the Conservation Department was based upon the Michigan Health Department's opinion of the Lake Erie waters.
2. That the Michigan Health Department opinion is based upon a 1957 Health Department survey of Lake Erie waters.
3. That the Health Department has held essentially the same opinion, that is, that the waters are unsafe for swimming since the survey was interpreted in 1958.
4. That the Health Department, since 1958, has not posted public warnings of its opinion that the waters are unsafe for swimming on Sterling State Park nor other public and private beaches considered unsafe for swimming.

The Committee believes that the Michigan Department of Health's failure to post and prohibit the public from swimming in unsafe waters for three years points up a major health deficiency. Assuming the correctness of the Health Department's opinion that the water is unsafe, the Committee directed inquiry to determine the action of stage agencies to protect the public from swimming in unsafe waters. The Health Department advises that it is without authority to post or prohibit the public from swimming in unsafe waters, particularly when the waters are adjacent to State lands.

The Committee proposes to make our legislators aware of the lack of public protection with respect to waters determined unsafe for swimming by the Health Department, so as to revise Michigan Laws, if necessary, to protect the public from swimming in unsafe waters throughout the state.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ James F. Townsend
James F. Townsend
Supervisor, Bedford Township,
Representing Monroe County.

(The Resolution accompanying the letter follows:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS investigations conducted since the posting of Sterling State Park as unsafe for swimming in August, 1961 have established:

1. That the posting was based on a 1957 survey made by the Michigan Department of Health, and

2. That based upon this 1957 survey, the Michigan Department of Health, since 1958 has considered Lake Erie Waters adjacent to Monroe County unsafe for swimming, and

3. That the Michigan Department of Health is without authority, after determining waters open to the public are unsafe for bathing, to prohibit bathing by posting public or privately owned land, and

WHEREAS public posting of beaches, regardless of the ownership of the land, to warn and prohibit bathers from bathing in unsafe waters, is a protection to which the public is entitled, and

WHEREAS Senate Bill No. 1182 provides that the supervision and control over bathing beaches open to the public shall be vested in the State Health Commissioner and requires the commissioner to test waters to determine the safety of the water for bathing purposes, and if found unsafe, to order the beaches closed for bathing regardless of the ownership of the land, and

WHEREAS the Monroe County Board of Supervisors is firmly convinced that the State Health Commissioner should be vested with authority to prohibit bathing at any beaches within the State that the State Health Commissioner has determined that the waters are unsafe for bathing purposes.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Monroe County Board of Supervisors approves the objectives of Senate Bill No. 1182 and recommends the passage of this Bill into Law to protect the health of all bathers using the public waters of this State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to Michigan State Senator Elmer Porter and State Representative Win Sterling.

Health and Welfare Committee

______________________________

Chairman

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______________________________ )

DR. HEUSTIS: Next on my list -- and for those who are admittedly getting tired, this is about fifth from the end -- next on my list is a representative from the Van Buren Township of Wayne County, Michigan.

STATEMENT OF DARWIN R. KURETH,
TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP,
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

MR. KURETH: Mr. Chairman and Committee members: I am Darwin R. Kureth, Supervisor of Van Buren Township.

Statement on Pollution by
Van Buren Township, Wayne
County, Michigan

Van Buren Township is located at the westerly edge of Wayne County adjacent to the easterly line of Washtenaw County in southeastern Michigan. The Huron River flows into

Wayne County within the limits of Van Buren Township, and at that point forms a series of lakes established from the backwaters of the Huron River due to a dam located at French Landing.

The lakes formed by the dam in the Huron River are the only lakes located within Wayne County, and constitute one of its major recreational areas.

Although Van Buren Township is sparsely populated at the present time and can scarcely afford the expenses involved, the Township nevertheless has within the past few months signed contracts for the transmission of its sewage in both the Rouge Valley Project and the Down River Project of Wayne County. The reason for Van Buren's entry into these two projects was to prevent further disposal of raw sewage and the effluent of disposal plants into the waters of the Huron River and its lakes.

At the present time, however, the Washtenaw County communities adjacent to Wayne County, and especially Ypsilanti Township and Ann Arbor, are discharging raw sewage and the effluent of sewage disposal plants into the Huron River where the aforesaid lakes become settling basins, have become polluted, their bottoms have become fertilized, and there have been excessive algae formations, markedly restricting the recreational use of this area and causing health hazards. These communities have publicly announced plans for the expansion of their sewage facilities, and have been permitted to continue building at an abnormally high rate, both residentially and industrially.

The State Health Department for the State of Michigan refused permission for the addition of treated sewage into these waters back in 1956, but for reasons best known to that department, advised the Huron River Watershed Inter-Governmental Committee, an unofficial group, that it would permit the expansion of the sewage facilities and the increase of sewage into the Huron River, provided a majority of said unofficial committee voted for such use of these waters. The committee being heavily weighted with Washtenaw County residents voted for the use of the Huron River for this purpose, and the State Department of Health authorized this use, authorized the expansion of the facilities, the increase of the sewage, and thus made public health a matter of a majority vote despite their own statements that such use was not proper for these waters.

The engineering reports indicated that under no circumstances should the sewage or sewage treatment plant effluent be increased without placing holding basins on the upstream side of the Washtenaw County Communities, but no plans to construct such holding basins have been made or even contemplated because of the cost involved. The result is that in low water periods 64 percent of the water flowing

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best available copy.

through the Huron River and the recreational lakes will be and will consist of the effluent of sewage treatment plants and raw sewage within a very short time.

It is the contention of Van Buren Township that the Huron River is being polluted not only by raw sewage in periods of high water, but is also being polluted by the effluent of sewage treatment plants since under present and contemplated treatment facilities it is impossible to treat fertilizers, detergents, chemicals and the various bacteria and virus from hospitals such as the University of Michigan Medical Center.

Because of the artificial boundary lines between municipalities and counties, it has been practically impossible to obtain the whole hearted cooperation of all of the communities involved. Van Buren Township takes the position and strongly recommends that sewage treatment and disposal must be done on a regional basis and that the only means by which the Great Lakes and its tributary waterways will be cleaned, is when legislation is passed establishing a metropolitan sewage disposal district authority covering the entire southeastern district of Michigan with taxing authority and bonding authority and with the further authority to acquire all grants in aid for sewage disposal facilities for the entire region. This would prevent the stampede between various non-cooperating municipalities for Federal grants. Such an authority should have the duty and obligation of taking over all municipal sewage disposal systems and operating them as part of a unit on a self-sustaining basis.

One of the obvious reasons that it is so difficult to obtain cooperation between various communities and counties is that the communities operating their own sewage disposal facilities are doing so at a sizeable profit to the community, which profit in many cases is used for other municipal services other than sewage disposal.

It is the further recommendation of Van Buren Township that all proper means be taken to acquire the knowledge to improve the methods of treatment of sewage so that said treatment will be complete as to all matters going through disposal plants, including chemicals, detergents, fertilizers, and bacteria.

(Applause.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

MR. KURETH: I trust we will get the minutes of these meetings?

THE CHAIRMAN: You certainly will. They will be made available to the State and Dr. Heustis or Mr. Adams will have them.

MR.KURETH: Thank you, sir.

DR. HEUSTIS: Next on my list is Thomas S. Welsh, the Macomb County Drain Commissioner. Is Mr. Welsh still here?

MR. DOHERTY: I am Richard Doherty. The statement is in the record. We won't read it.

(The statement of the Macomb County Drain Commission is as follows:

MACOMB COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSION
MACOMB COUNTY ENGINEERING BUILDING
115 GROESBECK HIGHWAY (M-97)
MOUNT CLEMENS, MICHIGAN

26th March 1962

Water Resources Commission
Lansing, Michigan

Re: Detroit River-Lake Erie Conference

Dear Sirs:

Under the listed purposes of this conference, which purports to seek factual answers to the three major questions, this office respectfully submits the following information.

1. Whether pollution of navigable waters is occurring that is subject to abatement under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act?

The answer is that the pollution of Lake St. Clair is occurring now and has been increasing for the past ten (10) years as the cities of St. Clair Shores, Roseville, East Detroit, and Warren have experienced explosive population increases. This rapid growth has caused massive amounts of sewage wastes of all kinds to be dumped into Lake St. Clair in time of storm through the only existing drainage outlets for this entire urban complex.

Both of these drains, the Nine Mile-Halfway and the Martin Drains, carry combined flow, storm as well as sanitary, and were constructed about 35 years ago. The original districts for which these drains were designed have been arbitrarily expanded until the overload has reached fantastic proportions 4 to 10 times their capacity. In dry weather the Jefferson Avenue interceptor takes the sanitary flow from these drains and transports it to the downriver Detroit sewage treatment plant. In time of storm the diversion chamber gates of both drains are opened and the flow is released into the lake. The alternative is to cause pollution to back into thousands of basements and to flood streets, yards and fields.

To the knowledge of this office the above-described situation constitutes one of the major pollution factors of Lake St. Clair. It pollutes the bathing beaches along the shore and causes them to be closed because of high bacteria count during some of the summer months, and it threatens shallower parts of the lake, which has become a recreation area for many thousands of small boat owners.

The Michigan State Health Department and the Michigan Water Resources Commission long since have recognized the endemic nature of this lake pollution. The Health Department has forbidden any new connections to these overloaded drains, and the Water Resources Commission has under way other sanctions against the offending communities, which will be imposed unless relief structures are built.

This pollution is subject to abatement under the Federal Water Pollution Act, but our application for help in constructing a pumping station and retention basin for one of four proposed new drainage outlets did not qualify us under the point system employed by the Michigan Water Resources Commission when all applications were reviewed in October 1961

2. The adequacy of measures taken to abate said pollution.

In 1958 the cities of St. Clair Shores, Roseville and East Detroit petitioned the Macomb County Intra-County Drainage Board for the construction of four major relief drains. The estimated cost is almost $29 million. The City of Warren, which is geographically situated so that it may be drained northward into the Clinton River, is in the midst of a gigantic drain construction program that will correct its flooding and pollution problems. Within a comparatively short time Warren will have separate sanitary and storm drainage systems, and will contribute pollution neither to the Clinton River nor to Lake St. Clair.

The four relief structures, designed to relieve flooding and pollution in St. Clair Shores, Roseville and East Detroit, will accomplish most of the necessary pollution abatement in Lake St. Clair.

The 8-1/2 Mile Relief Drain and the Stephens Relief Drain will reduce the area served by the present Nine Mile Drain so that raw sewage need never again be released into the lake, no matter what storm intensity is encountered. The 8-1/2 Mile Drain includes a pumping station and retention basin near the lake, as required by the State Health Department, and it will carry combined sanitary and storm water.

The Stephens Drain also will relieve the Nine Mile Drain, and it will carry only storm water via gravity to the lake.

The Martin Drain will be relieved in the main by the new 11-1/2 Mile Relief Drain and to a lesser degree by the Stephens Drain. The Martin Drain itself will continue in use, but with the addition of retention basin near the lake of a one-year storm capacity.

The Lake Boulevard Relief Drain will serve the northern section of Roseville and St. Clair Shores, will carry only storm water and will empty into the lake by gravity flow.

Final engineering and design work has been completed on the projects described. The affected communities have taxed their citizens to pay for the engineering, and the Drainage Board has acquired almost a quarter million dollars in planning advance funds from the Federal Government, money that must be repaid. The Drainage Board has certified final apportionment of costs over the benefitting public agencies involved.

3. The nature of delays, if any, being encountered in abating the pollution.

The Michigan State Highway Department is protesting its apportionment in the courts. Having lost a decision in a Macomb County certiorari hearing, it now is attempting to secure a second hearing in a chancery court, and threatens to appeal an adverse decision to the Michigan Supreme Court.

This single law suit is preventing the Drainage Board now from proceeding with the construction of the described program.

This statement is submitted to the Conference for informational purposes, and also with the hope that Federal assistance with which this office is yet unacquainted -- despite diligent study of all Federal help type legislation -- might be forthcoming through Conference efforts.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) THOMAS S. WELSH
Drain Commissioner
Macomb County, Michigan)

DR. HEUSTIS: Thank you very much. Next we have Mr. Stryker. I tried, as you will remember, and suggested that he could insert this statement in the record, but you see how much water the State Health Commissioner carries.

MR. DAMON: We are going to accept your offer. This will be made a part of the record and we appreciate the opportunity to present our statement. It will appear in the record?

THE CHAIRMAN: It will appear in the record as though read.

DR. HEUSTIS: If you get in trouble with your boss for not reading it I will take full responsibility.

(The prepared statement of the Macomb County Health Department is as follows:

March 14, 1962

Mr. Chairman and Conferees:

The Macomb County Health Department wishes to submit the following statement for the record.

This department since its inception in 1947 has taken an active role towards abating and controlling pollution of our water resources in Macomb County. This can be seen in many ways, several of which are enumerated:

1. In 1948 the establishment of Rules and Regulations governing sub-surface sewage disposal systems.

2. Three revisions of the above-mentioned Rules and Regulations all strengthening the code and raising the standards. Such revisions have been approved by the Macomb County Board of Supervisors.

3. An active and continual program with all municipalities and other governmental jurisdictions within this County towards providing adequate municipal sewerage systems.

4. Close coordination and working relationship with both the Michigan Department of Health and the Michigan Water Resources Commission, whose joint efforts and accomplishments within Macomb County will be shown under other reports.

We wish to state that definite accomplishments have been made in Macomb County towards pollution control. Further, it is recognized that being in a rapidly growing metropolitan area with our geographical location and geological conditions, we must continually strive towards improvement in all phases of our pollution control work. Both the Board of Health and Health Committee of the Board of Supervisors have continually given us support towards this end.

One of our present problems which we believe deserves attention from your group as well as our organizations, is that of the pollution caused by watercraft, ranging in size from the small boats, used for recreational purposes, to the Great Lakes and ocean-going vessels. This problem has been recognized by the Health Committee of the Macomb County Board of Supervisors, for whom we act as an administrative agency. We have been charged with stdying possible means of controlling this type of pollution in the waters within and bordering on Macomb County.

We wish to thank you for this opportunity to state our position.

Yours truly,

MACOMB COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

(Signed) Oscar D. Stryker, M.D. Director

(Signed) Merlin E. Damon, Sanitary Engineer)

DR. HEUSTIS: Next on our list is the Washtenaw County Health Department. Dr. O. K. Engleke's name is down here, and his able engineer is now approaching. Mr. Price, we will be glad to hear from you.

## STATEMENT OF JOSEPH W. PRICE, ENGINEER,
## WASHTENAW COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
## STATE OF MICHIGAN

MR. PRICE: I am Joseph W. Price, the engineer for the Washtenaw County Health Department.

This statement has been prepared by the staffs of the Huron River Watershed Intergovernmental Committee and the Washtenaw County Health Department to present a common view shared by these units of local government. Our interest in the problem under study comes from a concern for the Huron River, an important tributary to the waters in question.

In our programs and activities we have long recognized the obligation of an upstream community to treat and control its wastes for the protection of downstream users. We also believe that a common water resource should, however, be utilized for various beneficial purposes consistent with reasonable safeguards that can be applied to minimize conflicts of use and detrimental effects of one use upon another.

The Huron River Watershed Intergovernmental Committee was formed in 1958 with a membership for thirty two (32) units of local government - county, township, village and city - in the Huron Basin. Although its broad interests are basin-wide, major efforts of the Committee have been centered in the Lower Basin, Ann Arbor downstream to Lake Erie, and have been focused upon the impact of growing urbanization together with the use of the Huron for disposal of waste effluents and the inter-relationships of these upon water quality and other uses of the river.

A number of important studies have been completed, including an extensive sampling and testing program by the City of Ypsilanti for the river from above Ann Arbor to Belleville. From these studies and reports, the Technical Advisory Subcommittee of the Huron River Intergovernmental Committee prepared a summary report which included a recommended Water Use Policy. A copy of this report is appended for reference and copies of all other studies can be made available upon request. These documents and reports are in your office, Mr. Connaughton, as part of the studies being conducted by your office, or your staff, in relation to the Huron River Basin.

We have found the Huron River to be of acceptable sanitary quality in the area of our intensive studies. The specific effect of the river upon Lake Erie has not been determined by us and we would welcome additional data in this regard. However, we are certain that measures already undertaken, or planned, under the Water Use Policy of the Huron River Intergovernmental Committee, adopted in early 1961 and endorsed by these member governments, will effectively control pollution for at least the next twenty years. The following, significant features, or programs, are contemplated:

(1) The extension of trunk sewer service by the County of Wayne from their Wyandotte sewage treatment plant to service the entire Wayne County portion of the Huron Basin with this effluent actually diverted from the river;

(2) Expansion and use of existing individual community sewage treatment plants which will provide a high level of secondary treatment and disinfection in all installations;

(3) Control of the river flows with possible future low flow augmentation from new storage reservoirs.

We have no recent knowledge regarding the timetable to accomplish point number (1). However, a communication from the Wayne County Department of Public Works, dated January 26, 1962, indicated their plan at that time was to award contracts for expansion of their sewage plant at Wyandotte and construction of an interceptor to Belleville on or about May 1, 1962. We believe some delays have been encountered since that time, but we are uncertain as to their exact nature.

With regard to program number (2), action is now in progress. The City of Ypsilanti has awarded a contract and construction is underway for expansion of their sewage treatment plant, including the addition of secondary treatment.

Ypsilanti Township nas completed work to improve the hydraulic capacity of their plant at the Willow Run Airport, so they have some reserve for future growth, and engineering plans have been prepared and approved by the Michigan Department of Health for additional treatment plant improvements which will be constructed as needed to maintain high treatment efficiency. The complete treatment plant of the City of Ann Arbor is operating near capacity at the moment but a preliminary study on enlargement has been completed, accepted by the Michigan Department of Health and the preparation of final designs by the engineers has been authorized.

The third program is being pursued by two means. Reorganization of the Huron River Watershed Intergovernmental Committee to provide an organization that can administer a water management program is now under study. The U.S. Corps of Engineers is making a preliminary investigation of a reservoir site in the Huron Basin for flood protection with added studies relating to multiple use being made for them by the U.S. Public Health Service on low flow augmentation and water supply.

Delays beyond our control have been experienced in the past and are still confronting us. We have been under pressures in the past to "export" our sewage directly to the Detroit River or Lake Erie through connections to the Wayne County system. We resisted this past pressure on both economic grounds and a belief that our problem should not be "moved downstream to another location" until we had exhausted the ability of modern technology and administrative mechanisms to handle it locally.

There is now outstanding a lawsuit started by Wayne County and Van Buren Township which is a further attempt to force a connection to the Wayne County sewerage system and to restrain our municipalities from continuing to use the Huron River for disposal of our highly-treated sewage effluents. This tends only to create added delay and we sincerely question the position of Wayne County in arbitrarily attempting to force our communities into its system in view of the fact that Wayne County's sewage is being discharged directly into the waters now being surveyed for pollution, after being given only primary treatment.

It is our desire to proceed fully and without delay in our thoughtfully developed approach for protecting the quality of the Huron River through improving the treatment plants in the Washtenaw County portion of the Huron. Wayne County agencies should, in their turn, be concerned with a program to improve their facilities which have a more direct impact on the Detroit River and Lake Erie and in providing the needed sewerage service to their portion of the Huron Basin rather than impeding the total program with court action.

Signed:

For Huron River Watershed Intergovernmental Committee

(Signed) Emory Mulholland, Chairman;

For Washtenaw County

(Signed) E. A. Wolter, Chairman,
Board of Supervisors;

For City of Ann Arbor

(Signed) Guy C. Larcom, Jr., City Administrator;

For City of Ypsilanti

(Signed) Elizabeth E. Fenker, City Clerk;

For Ypsilanti Township

(Signed) Roy Smith, Township Supervisor

* * *

## APPENDIX

## STATEMENT FOR DETROIT RIVER - LAKE ERIE CONFERENCE

by

Huron River Watershed Intergovernmental Committee

Washtenaw County

City of Ann Arbor

City of Ypsilanti

Township of Ypsilanti

March 27, 1962

THE HURON RIVER: A WATER USE POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

A Report of the Technical Advisory Subcommittee

Huron River Watershed Intergovernmental Committee

October 1960

## TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Joseph W. Price, Chairman, Washtenaw County Health Department

Lyle Craine, Ph. D., Vice Chairman, Conservation Department, University of Michigan

Jack Borchardt, Ph. D., Civil Engineering, University of Michigan

William Gable, Ph. D., Institute of Public Administration, University of Michigan

Paul Van Buskirk, Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority

Noland Heiden, Oakland County Planning Commission

Charles Kaufman, Livingston County Planning Commission

Paul Reid, Detroit Regional Metropolitan Area Planning Commission

Clarence Velz, School of Public Health, University of Michigan

Frank Waite, King Seeley Corporation

Jerold Wingeart, Board of Wayne County Road Commissioners

Robert Carpenter, Washtenaw County Planning Commission

David W. Walker, Executive Secretary, Huron River Watershed Intergovernmental Committee

## INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the directive of the Huron River Watershed Intergovernmental Committee, the Technical Advisory Subcommittee has reviewed available information and reports on water resources of the Huron River Basin. We herewith present a summary evaluation, together with recommendations regarding a water use policy and an area-wide water resources development program for the Basin. This report will serve as a guide to the Committee and its member communities in taking the cooperative public action which is required by the situation.

Three reports were at the disposal of the subcommittee: namely, "Water Resource Conditions and Uses in the Huron River Basin," by the Michigan Water Resources Commission, 1957; "A Report on Surveys and Investigations of Agricultural Irrigation Potential in the Huron River Basin," by the Soil Conservation Service, U.S.D.A., 1960; and "A Report on Waste Disposal and Water Use in the Downstream Portions of the Huron River," by Black and Veatch, Consulting Engineers, 1960.

Water Resources Commission Report. The Water Resources Commission Report, in addition to presenting basic hydrologic studies and water use patterns for the Huron Basin, devotes particular attention to methods of improving the utility of the lower Huron River for water supply and for waste disposal through stream flow regulation. Extensive studies were made of storage requirements needed to assure selected minimum stream flows under drought conditions similar to the worst recorded. The characteristics, costs and capacities of several reservoir sites are presented. Analysis indicates that substantial improvement in low stream flow is feasible at reasonable cost.

Because this report presents considerable analysis and study, its conclusions and recommendations are worthy of careful consideration. For convenience they are attached as Appendix A.

The Soil Conservation Service Report. This report, prepared with the assistance of the staffs of the County Planning Commissions of Washtenaw, Oakland and Livingston Counties, assessed the soils and crop potential for irrigation agriculture and consequent demands for water. Attention was given only those areas within the Basin which in the judgment of the planning commissions are expected to remain in agriculture for a considerable time. The areas with soils suitable for irrigation were identified, and estimates were made of the total water which might be required for irrigation. The water supply sources, stream diversion, wells, and surface storage, could only be given a limited analysis from data available. However, the report shows that stream flows during the dry, or irrigation, seasons could provide only a minor portion of the need.

A summary of the findings of this report is attached as Appendix B.

Black and Veatch Report. The Black and Veatch report is primarily addressed to waste disposal and water use in the down-stream portions of the Huron River. The engineering studies were necessarily based upon already available data. Black and Veatch developed 8 plans for waste treatment and disposal to serve lower Huron communities. On the basis of economic and technical feasibility, two were recommended as alternative choices. The report discusses water quality criteria and includes certain information from the 1956-57 stream sampling program sponsored by the City of Ypsilanti and carried out by Dr. J. A. Borchardt. However, no rigorous stream analysis study was made by them which would define waste assimilation capacity and water quality conditions of the lower Huron under present and future waste loads, and under various natural or regulated stream flows. It is assumed the engineers found such definitive studies were not possible within the limitations of presently available data, and were, therefore, beyond the scope of their report.

The Black and Veatch report brings into perspective possibilities for solution of waste disposal problems. Again, for convenience, the "Summary of Findings and Recommendations' is attached as Appendix C.

Problems and Objectives. The data and analyses available at this time are less than those desired to develop a complete and detailed water resources program. However, sufficient information is at hand to serve as a guide for important policy decisions concerning an area-wide approach to some of the most pressing water resource problems.

One immediate problem is waste water disposal in the lower part of the basin. A solution to this problem should be found that is adequate for anticipated future needs and that gives consideration to the impact of waste disposal upon other water uses. The Michigan Department of Health has voiced concern that uncoordinated expansion of individual waste treatment plants might produce polution loads incompatible with other present, or future, uses of the river. Consequently, it has prohibited further expansion of individual community sewage disposal systems until an area-wide policy for river use is developed and adopted as an instrument to minimize future conflicts.

While this area-wide approach must be sufficient to guide action, it is the judgment of the Subcommittee that it should not be a rigid, detailed scheme. Rather, it should be a statement of major objectives with the essential commitments for public action as are necessary to achieve those goals. The Huron River Watershed Intergovernmental Committee, and its member communities, must reach agreement on broad policies and programs for river use which are precise enough to give guidance to continuing community development but at the same time possess sufficient flexibility to permit future modifications based upon new data and additional studies.

The objectives of this document are, therefore, to: (1) review and summarize these three reports to HRWIC and appraise the facts regarding the water resources of the Huron River and its uses; (2) evaluate the two plans for waste water disposal favored by Black and Veatch; and (3) recommend the essential elements of a water use policy and development program for the river that seems feasible to the Subcommittee.

## THE HURON RIVER - RESOURCE AND USES

Description: The Huron River Basin has a drainage area of 890 square miles with a main channel length of 125 miles. The head waters and a major portion of the watershed lies in an area containing approximately 350 lakes. The stream exhibits a relatively stable flow pattern. In over 40 years of records (Ann Arbor gage) the average flow has been 430 cubic feet per second, with a high of 2,990 cfs. Within this period, however, extended drought conditions have reduced the monthly average flows to less than 100 cfs., in the years 1931, 1934 and 1936. In August of 1934 the flow at this location averaged only 21.1 cfs.

For discussion purposes the Huron Basin has been divided into "upper" and "lower" river areas. The Upper Basin is above Ann Arbor from Barton Dam upstream where the river is primarily a stream flowing through several natural lakes. This portion makes up 79% of the total area, or about 700 square miles, yet contains only 31% of the population, or about 78,000 in 1960, distributed widely with limited industrial development.

In the Lower Basin the river is essentially a series of dams and impoundments with flow regulated by nine hydroelectric plants. This smaller area contains the major cities, industries and a population of 176,000 in 1960, which cause intensive water use demand.

The matter of water rights and water law should be recognized. Although complete analysis is impossible here and the subject has not been considered in other reports, a brief discussion is pertinent. The common law regulating water rights is based upon the riparian doctrine which characterizes water law in the eastern United States. Under strict interpretation, any user of the stream must allow the water to pass to the next downstream user without change in quantity or in quality. In Michigan, the strict interpretation has been modified, or defined, by the courts to permit such depletion of quantity or deterioration in quality as may be judged to be reasonable.

With the rapid growth and development of the lower Huron area pressures upon the river resource are bound to intensify. From these demands, quantity depletions and quality deteriorations may result and be challenged in the courts by individual owners. It would then fall upon the courts to define what is reasonable use. With such a case-by case approach, it would be necessary to seek justice with inadequate facts covering all the possibilities and consequences.

Compromises in the public interest may be necessary that will, in effect, require a waiver of some individual rights through community agreements and the creation of an area water use policy. Through the HRWIC such an area-wide water use policy and development program can be achieved that has as its objective the satisfaction of major water needs by cooperative agreement, without resorting to the courts.

Drainage. Drainage is the primary function of a river. It provides the natural means to remove storm water and soil drainage from the basin. Drainage can influence both quantity and quality of water in the channel.

Floods have not been serious because of lakes in the Upper Basin and impoundments in the Lower. Higher flows from storms can be expected in the future, however, as more land is covered with roofs or roads which speed runoff by reducing the absorbing surface. Changes in land use or management, such as a shift from row-crop agriculture to truck crops, can increase infiltration and have an opposite effect. Sub-soil drainage of farm lands to improve agricultural productivity speeds the flow to channel or reduces the storage of water within the land and diminishes the base flow.

In the Upper Basin the stabilization of lake and stream levels is needed if property values are to be given optimum protection, especially where riparian lands have been built-up with cottages and dwellings.

Water quality may be influenced by changes in agriculture and land management practices that employ increasing amounts of fertilizers, insecticides, and herbicides when residues of these chemicals reach the river.

Pollution from storm water from urban areas will continue and may increase as community development progresses. Runoff from streets and uncontrolled sewage connections to storm drains can contribute significant pollution loads and adversely affect the water quality to a point detrimental for some recreation and water supply uses. The significance of this has not been determined, and there is urgent need for intensive river sampling studies to differentiate the effects upon water quality from drainage, storm water discharges, or land management practices as distinct from those of waste water effluents.

Water Supply. Public water supply is one of the most vital needs now met by the river. The potable water supplies for Ann Arbor and Flat Rock are derived principally from this source. In addition, Belleville utilizes the stream as a supplemental supply and Ypsilanti Township maintains an emergency river intake. The average municipal use from all sources in 1957 was 20 million gallons a day, with a maximum of 32 mgd., according to the Water Resources Commission report.

Several industries use large volumes of river water for cooling and processing in the Ypsilanti area. This use has been estimated by Black and Veatch at approximately 5 mgd. New industrial uses, or users needing large quantities, will probably have to seek sources of water, or plant locations, outside the basin.

In the area of the lower Huron, as in most localities, per capita water demands are expected to rise. With population and industrial increases this will create greater demands for municipal water in the future. For this area an average of 180 gallons per capita daily water use for 1980 can be selected as a conservative estimate from the Black and Veatch data. This lies between their two extremes of 158 gallons and 280 gallons for individual systems and well below their projected United States average of 203 gallons.

Using a population estimate of 235,000 persons for a portion of this region in 1980 an average of 42 million gallons per day of municipal water would be required. Black and Veatch further indicate a maximum ground water potential for the Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti area of only 25 mgd. The balance of 17 mgd., or 26 cfs., must come from the river or other outside sources. In addition to these average values, maximum, or peak demands will, of course, be substantially greater and may possibly coincide with drought conditions. Since monthly flows in the lower Huron at Ann Arbor have already occurred that averaged less than this needed 26 cfs., the river could not be considered the most dependable source of supply for this area without low flow augmentation.

Definitive studies outlining alternative plans for water supply for communities along the Huron River have not been made. Likewise, rigorous stream analyses have not been made to define water quality conditions expected in the future under the various plans of waste disposal proposed, and under the conditions of stream flow regulation suggested.

Based upon the Water Resources Commission report and the Black and Veatch report, notwithstanding inadequate treatment at some of the sewage works, it can be judged that the Huron River is not grossly polluted. Furthermore, water at some locations in the lower Huron, measured in terms of available standard criteria, is now, and may continue to be acceptable as a source of public water supply.

A fundamental principle, however, should be to seek a source providing the highest quality of water attainable consistent with technical and economic feasibility. Given alternative choices, there is no question of the wisdom in providing extra factors of safety inherent in obtaining a supply above rather than below sources of pollution, even where waste water is treated. Three alternative sources of supply for lower Huron communities have been suggested: (1) further development of ground water sources; (2) obtain water from outside sources such as the Detroit Metropolitan system; or (3) joint development of the upper Huron River with the common intake above Ann Arbor.

Whether the lower river should continue to be considered as a source of potable water supply for the future is a question difficult to answer objectively at this time. If alternative sources were not available for communities in the lower Huron Valley, modern technology provides through well-designed sewage treatment plants a high degree of pollution control in terms of bacterial quality of waste effluents. A second line of defense could be provided in carefully designed and well operated water purification plants. Depending upon the location of the downstream water supply intakes in relation to sewage treatment outfalls, it is possible that portions of the lower river could produce a satisfactory water supply, particularly if developed in conjunction with flow augmentation and regulation. Thus, while immediate objectives are oriented to a thorough investigation of alternative sources of water supply, further facts and studies may show that certain reaches of the lower Huron, if necessary, can serve as a source of water supply with reasonable safety.

Waste Water Disposal. The Huron River is used to dilute and assimilate treated sewage. In 1959, 14 sewage treatment plants discharged about 16.5 million gallons a day of treated sewage, 93% occurring at or below Ann Arbor. Primary and secondary treatment is provided at Ann Arbor and operation is within design capacity. Ypsilanti City has primary treatment and its plant is overloaded so some raw sewage by-passes into the river. Ypsilanti Township has two plants, both having primary and secondary treatment. Considerable raw sewage by-passes one plant. Belleville has only primary treatment. The Wayne County Romulus plant provides primary and secondary treatment.

In addition to the sanitary load, industrial waste effluents contribute about 4 million gallons a day of which 72% is discharged below Ann Arbor.

The discharge of treated waste water has a bearing on the quality of water downstream available for other uses. Quality will vary according to the location of the outfall in relation to the points of these uses and according to the river flow available for dilution and transportation. Insofar as existing data shows, the current treated sewage effluent loads discharged to the river are not creating quality conditions that are significantly adverse to the other present uses.

The effect of future effluent loads upon existing or new uses of the river is not as clear. Increased population and industrial expansion will produce proportionately larger sewage and industrial waste loads. Black and Veatch estimate that by 1980 the sanitary waste load, with treatment at 90% efficiency, from all Lower Huron communities would be about 1.4 times that being discharged now as measured on a basis of B.O.D. and population equivalents. If the raw sewage being by-passed at present were measured and the load added to the existing known discharges from sewage plants, the increase in amount of wastes in the river would be even less than 1.4 times the present.

A further breakdown of the Black and Veatch data, together with their estimates of the future waste water loads from the Lower Huron communities, can be made to distinguish the Wayne County sources as distinct from those sources in Washtenaw County. For Wayne County, the present waste effluent load of 5,100 population equivalents would increase by 1980 to 16,700 with treatment at 90% efficiency. However, on the same basis, Washtenaw County loads would actually decrease from the present load of 21,000 population equivalents to 18,800 in 1980, primarily as a result of more effective treatment than is now being realized.

Future industrial waste water discharges, other than those normal contributions to sanitary sewage flows, are not ascertainable. However, it is not anticipated that individual disposal of waste industrial water will substantially increase due to the limitations of available process water that tends to rule out the location of new industries requiring large volumes.

If the Huron River is to be utilized for ultimate disposal of treated wastes, it is imperative that the waste waters receive a high degree of treatment. Even with the best possible treatment, the increased pollution loads coincident with the area's growth may overtax the stream with a decline of water quality in the future. To protect against this, provision should be made for augmenting low flows occurring during dry weather periods to: (1) aid in dilution, (2) provide adequate flow in stream sections between impoundments, (3) improve waste assimilation capacity, and (4) enhance general esthetic conditions.

It is conceivable that ultimate development in the valley may reach a stage where consideration will have to be given to diversion of waste water to other systems outside the Huron Basin. In such case, storage to augment stream flow will also serve to maintain water levels below points of diversion.

Recreation. More than 54,000 acres of Basin land are devoted to recreational uses. Large expenditures of public money have been made by the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority for the development of park lands along the Huron River, including bathing beaches in the upper reaches. The recreational use along the lower Huron utilizes the river primarily for scenic background with no organized water contact.

Most of the Huron River is used for boating and fishing. While public use of the lower Huron for swimming and water skiing is not encouraged, nevertheless, large numbers of people, particularly on weekends, use Ford Lake and Belleville Lake for these recreational purposes. The Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority recognized in the past the many limitations of the Lower Huron for public swimming and has built a large outdoor pool at its Lower Huron Metropolitan Park.

An expanding population may be expected to create a continually increasing demand for recreational facilities. Expansion of the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority use of the river for a scenic background will occur along the lower River. For esthetic reasons such park lands need an assured flow of modest proportions during all periods of use.

Boating and water skiing will probably remain important recreation activities and may increase in a few of the lakes in the Lower Huron. Those lakes which lack public access will receive limited use for such activities. In any event, boating and water skiing are not ordinarily viewed as organized close contact use of water in the sense of needing exceptionally pure water. It may, however, be necessary to restrict some areas to prohibit water recreation activities near drainage outlets as a precaution against unusual hazards.

Future population growth may create additional demands for bathing facilities. The increasing interest in swimming pools is expected to continue as a means of providing swimming in a safe, convenient, hygenic, and enjoyable way.

Careful monitoring of water quality should be made on a continuous basis in Ford Lake and Belleville Lake adjacent to bathing areas now in use. That would provide a basis for future decisions in regard to public health safety even though no new developments are anticipated.

Irrigation. Use of irrigation water from the Huron is not extensive. However, all water withdrawn for those purposes consumes and depletes the stream flow and influences amounts available for other uses, especially during drought periods.

Lands below Ann Arbor have low potential for agricultural irrigation. Parks and golf courses are the major users, and future demands upon the river should be modest. About 28,000 acres in the Upper Basin have greater agricultural irrigation potential, especially with the trend to high value truck crops. Unrestricted use of river water for that purpose could consume the entire flow when drought conditions coincide with growing season. If surface water is to be used extensively for irrigation, storage will need to be provided to avoid this conflict and possible infringement of the rights of other users.

Hydroelectric Power. The series of impoundments for production of electric power from Ann Arbor downstream makes the river not so much a stream as a chain of lakes. Their value for power has declined and most of the properties are for sale. However, the impoundments have value for recreation, water storage for municipal and industrial uses--including sewage and waste water disposal--and they create values for neighboring real estate. Since the dams control the Huron, their operation determines the flow of the stream. At present, the power plants are operated to meet peak power demands which causes pulsations in stream flow. At times of low power demand, little or no flow may be released for several days.

Operation of the dams for hydro-power will probably cease. However, the impoundments, or lakes, should be retained and managed in the public interest for their other established values mentioned before. Moreover, the coordinated operation of dams could lead to a more stable flow, without sudden fluctuations, to better protect and serve the various interests in the lower Huron.

## PLANS FOR WASTE DISPOSAL IN LOWER HURON

Black and Veatch investigate and report on eight engineering schemes for handling waste water loads in the Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti area. The general design period is for 20 years to 1980 on all treatment facilities. Where interceptor sewers were needed they were designed to serve an additional 20 years, or until 2000.

Assuming that it might be desirable or necessary to divert the municipal wastes from the river, they proposed and reviewed the following various plans. One was for immediate diversion of all waste water, but they did not believe it could be financed at present. All the other plans proposed some use of the river for waste water discharge. Two plans were recommended as most feasible from engineering and economic viewpoints although they differ in method, cost, and administrative machinery required to carry them out. Although some comparisons were made on the effects of each plan upon water quality and river uses, those can not, in themselves, form a basis for the selection of any specific plan. Policy decisions relating to total river use must be made prior to or coincident with one selecting a program for waste water disposal. The two plans recommended, Plan 5 and Plan 2, are briefly described.

Plan 5. This plan proposes an immediate diversion of the sewage from the Ypsilanti-Ypsilanti Township area through the extension of the downriver interceptor now planned by Wayne County to intercept the sewage at their Romulus Plant and to serve Belleville and future development in adjoining portions of Wayne County. Ann Arbor and other communities upstream from Ypsilanti would expand their treatment plants or construct new facilities to serve during this "first stage", or until about 1980. However, a second stage, built about 1980 would provide an extension of the interception system to Ann Arbor and at that time leave the entire Lower Huron free from municipal sewage effluents.

Plan 5 is based on a concept that sufficient benefits may result from immediate diversion of part of the waste water flow from the Washtenaw County portion of the Lower Huron to be economically justified, and that a start toward diversion might be advantageous at this time if the long-range objective is toward that end. The immediate cost would be $5 million with future costs for the second stage not readily ascertainable.

The immediate creation of an administrative organization representing the service area would be needed to negotiate with Wayne County. Agreement upon construction costs, their allocation to member communities, and rates for service would be necessary before proceeding.

In addition, in order to compensate for the loss of flows to the interceptor system, two reservoirs in the Upper Basin are recommended. These would provide storage of water during times of high flows for release during periods of low flow. Their cost has been estimated at 2-1/2 million dollars. Other benefits from flow management, more water available during drought periods, and some multiple uses of these new reservoirs, may also be obtained.

Plan 2. This plan depends on expansion and improvements of existing or provision for additional sewage treatment facilities by individual communities, as needed, in the Washtenaw County portion of the Lower Huron. Total cost is 2-1/2 million dollars. It is assumed that the sewer now planned by Wayne County to intercept sewage at the Romulus plant and from the Belleville area will be constructed and thus remove these effluents from that stretch of the river.

The effectiveness of Plan 2, like Plan 5, depends upon the same system of upstream storage reservoirs, costing 2-1/2 million dollars. These storage developments would provide higher flows during critical drought seasons to improve dilution and assimilation of wastes in addition to the benefits mentioned in the discussion of Plan 5.

Plan 2 is based upon a concept that the river would

Plan 2?

The evidence is far from clear that water quality will be significantly lowered by 1980 under Plan 2, and there is some reason to believe that it may not experience undue deterioration by 2000, providing adequate sewage treatment is accomplished and low river flows are increased by additions from new storage reservoirs.

Under either plan a major anticipated increase in waste water, that originating in Wayne County communities, would be diverted from the river by the interceptor already planned. Although some additional sewage from the Ypsilanti area would be diverted with Plan 5, Plan 2 would also materially reduce the load on the river through improved treatment.

The removal of municipal and industrial waste does not eliminate all sources of pollution. Discharge of surface runoff from storm drains can be significant. This contribution to the river cannot be treated nor entirely diverted, and it will carry increasing loads of pollutants washed from the land and our expanding suburbs. Such uncontrolled pollution is more or less inevitable in our highly urbanized society. We must not fool ourselves by thinking that it is possible to return the lower Huron River to the pristine conditions of the beginning of this century.

2. What river uses are likely to suffer damage if water quality in the lower Huron does deteriorate between

carry the entire treated waste water discharges from the Washtenaw County communities of the lower Huron until 1980 without serious damage to other present water uses. After 1980, if it is found that the high degree of waste treatment coupled with river management and low flow regulation is not adequate to provide the needed protection for other river uses, diversion of waste effluents could then be accomplished by all communities in the Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti area by connecting to a proposed Wayne County Lower Huron interceptor sewer which is now shown in their long-range plan. This is the same future interceptor which would be needed as an outlet under Plan 5 when any second stage of that plan was implemented. However, the administrative organization to negotiate with Wayne County would not be needed until later.

Appraisal of the Two Plans. The basic questions before HRWIC communities are whether sufficient improvement or protection of water quality can be achieved through Plan 5 to make it worth the $2-1/2 million additional costs and whether the adoption of a long-range policy goal of total waste water diversion is realistic, or necessary, at this time. As a guide for the communities in agreeing upon a river use policy the Technical Advisory Subcommittee propose to raise and discuss pertinent questions as follows:

1. How sure are we that the water quality in 198 or 2000, will be significantly better with Plan 5 than unde

now and 1980, or the year 2000, in spite of the safeguards provided by Plan 2?

First, it must be recognized that uses of the river below Ann Arbor are already restricted. Swimming and other water contact uses are discouraged. Most public recreation plans for the lower river area depend upon the river only for its scenic background value. Little river water is now used for municipal water supplies, and municipalities in the lower basin are already seeking other sources for future needs. Study of these alternate water supply sources should be given high priority in any event.

It appears then, that there is a considerable margin within which water quality may fluctuate without serious effect upon present uses. Water quality would have to deteriorate severely before it becomes so generally obnoxious to sight or smell as to jeopardize the lower Huron as a place to live or enjoy recreation on lands along its shores. If Plan 2 does not maintain existing quality, it might be necessary to further restrict water contact recreation. Uses of river water for irrigation of vegetables may also have to be prohibited in the future; however, the irrigation potential in this area is limited. Detailed and constant water sampling (quality monitoring) could provide a basis for river zoning as well as data for other future policy decisions which may be required by new situations.

3. What problems confront the governmental units of the Huron basin in carrying out each plan?

Both plans require the construction of storage reservoirs and the regulation of river flows. This is a cooperative task for the several governmental units in the basin, and, as recommended by Black and Veatch, some kind of coordinated water management agency should be created to do the job.

Plan 5, in addition to requiring a water management agency involving the whole basin, would require the establishment of some kind of sewerage district organization of several communities along the lower Huron. This organization would be needed to plan, finance and construct on a joint basis the intercepting sewers essential to the plan, and to negotiate contracts with Wayne County for treatment of the diverted sewage.

Plan 2, on the other hand, would not require the establishment of such a sewerage district at this time since it relies upon each individual community continuing to provide its own sewage disposal until such time as the evidence is clear that treated effluents must be diverted from the river.

The summary judgment of the Technical Advisory Subcommittee is that the communities of the Huron River Basin are better advised at this time to commit themselves to a water use policy and river development program which will include Plan 2 since the facts are not adequate to clearly justify the additional expenditure needed under Plan 5. This policy and the development program must recognize the impact of Plan 2 upon other water needs and uses, and must contain the essential public commitments that are necessary and justified on the basis of presently available information to best insure orderly development and equitable use of the river.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The Technical Advisory Subcommittee recommends the following as elements of an area-wide water use policy and resource development program for the Huron River Watershed.

1. With respect to waste water disposal,
   a. continue to use the lower Huron River for disposal of adequately treated waste water at existing or new sites until such time as water quality trends, reflected by river sampling, indicate that considerations should be given to partial or complete diversion;
   b. give adequate treatment to all present and future waste waters originating in the Upper Basin, and exercise public authority with respect to developments in the Upper

Basin to prevent pollution problems, unreasonable deterioration of quality, or future conflicts of river use.

2. With respect to community water supply,
   a. begin immediate investigation of alternative means of increasing water supplies for Ann Arbor and communities downstream including: ground water, sources outside the basin, and use of the Huron River above Ann Arbor as a common source through joint development;
   b. consider the lower Huron as a source of public water supply only after due consideration of alternative sources and the completion of additional studies suitable to sustain such consideration.
3. With respect to recreation,
   a. recognize that the greatest potential for direct use of water for bathing and other recreation exists in the Upper Basin where it needs protection and development;
   b. recognize that esthetic, health, and safety limitations restrict public recreational use of the lower Huron, and consideration be given to possibilities of directing

private use through zoning water areas in relation to location of sewage treatment outfalls and storm drains, as detailed field surveys of water quality may indicate;

c. recognize that extreme low flows in any section of the lower Huron are inconsistent with esthetic values and recreational use, and that steps should be taken to eliminate fluctuations of flow due to operations of dams and taken to provide a higher minimum flow during extreme drought conditions.

4. With respect to irrigation,

a. recognize irrigation as a growing user of water in areas of the Upper Basin and that it depletes the supply;

b. recognize that compensating quantities of water will need to be provided by storage for that taken by direct withdrawals from the stream for irrigation.

5. With respect to improving stream flow and water management,

a. recognize that low flow augmentation is necessary, and that it be accepted as a joint responsibility of all communities in the Basin;

b. recognize that management of stream flow in the Huron River is a joint responsibility necessary to insure benefits of low flow augmentation, and that coordinated operations of existing impoundments and future reservoirs should be achieved as a necessary service in the best interests of many users;

c. insure that development and operation of any water management program includes consideration of multiple purpose development including such benefits as recreation, irrigation, flood control, and lake and stream level stabilization where feasible.

6. With respect to need for further data and study,

   a. undertake continuing study and analysis of water quality and such other studies as are necessary for water management;

   b. encourage the Michigan Department of Health, Michigan Water Resources Commission or other agencies to undertake specialized studies or to collect basic data.

7. With respect to organizational needs,

   a. recognize that a new agency representing the communities in the basin, is needed which has adequate functions and authority to carry forward the water management program;

b. include among the functions of such an agency the following:

   1. studies, site acquisition, construction, operation, and benefit allocation for new storage reservoirs with authority to develop these reservoirs on any multiple purpose bases as may be feasible;
   2. acquisition, maintenance and operation of existing properties and facilities (dams) now existing for river flow regulation together with provision of authority to negotiate and coordinate operating schedules among private owners of such facilities;
   3. design and conduct future water or related studies in the basin as a direct function or through negotiation with federal, state, or local agencies.

c. Continue the Huron River Watershed Intergovernmental Committee for interim leadership in adoption of a basin policy and program and in creation of a management agency and in such other activities as its limitations allow to carry forward the interests of its members.

The Technical Advisory Subcommittee further recommends the following, specific actions for the HRWIC and its member communities:

A. Adopt the water policy and resource management program described above through resolution, or other appropriate action, by HRWIC with endorsement by its member communities.

B. Transmit the adopted policy and development program to the Michigan Department of Health and Michigan Water Resources Commission for their information and request their cooperation in its implementation.

C. The HRWIC should take immediate action to investigate thoroughly the specific legal, financial, and administrative needs and possibilities as a basis for early establishment of a management agency, and exert leadership in its establishment.

## APPENDIX A

### Michigan Water Resources Commission Report, 1957

### CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Continuation of the great development now taking place in the Huron River basin depends very importantly upon wise management of its water resources. By any standard, those resources are very substantial in quantity and generally excellent in quality. They include 353 inland lakes, large underground reservoirs, and a stream system that at Ann Arbor yields an average daily flow of some 550 million gallons. The lakes, in their attractive setting of rolling terrain and hardwood groves, constitute a vast potential for recreational development. The ground waters are readily accessible, cool, clear, pure and moderately hard to very hard. The streams are also relatively clear and, in comparison with those of other areas, moderately to very stable in flow. Ninety-five percent of the time flow of the Huron at Ann Arbor has been at least one-fourth as much as its long-term average. In most reaches of tributaries and main stream, the river system is sufficiently free of pollution to permit its use for recreation and water supply. Although pollution is developing critical conditions in some sections of the lower river, the problem is, for the most part one future rather than present seriousness.

Yet, with all these great water resources assets, the basin faces difficult problems. In the headwater areas of lakes and small streams, it is becoming increasingly urgent that further private development be guided by coordinated planning.

Although it appears likely that most of the water supply needs of upstream communities may be filled from ground water sources for some time, appraisal of those sources should be made well in advance of the needs for any expansion.

Downstream problems of water use stem largely from the intermittent occurrence of periods of low stream flow. The practical utility of the river for water supply and waste disposal is seriously limited except as provision can be made for supplementing the natural low flow with releases from reservoirs.

This report identifies the potential reservoir sites that appear to offer the greatest prospects from the standpoint of capacity, replenishment possibilities, and economic feasibility of acquisition and development. It points out that many good sites that might formerly have been available are now so highly developed for other uses as to eliminate them from serious consideration.

Whether it will be feasible to develop any reservoirs and, if so, how many and which ones, are questions to be answered by comparing their costs and capabilities with those of alternative facilities. Obtaining the answers to these questions should not, of course, be long deferred lest the remaining reservoir sites become economically unavailable. It may be re-emphasized here that any plan of river flow supplementation by reservoir use should recognize the key position of Barton Pond both as a mechanical aid to operation of the system and as an impounding area for dry season storm flows. Its outright acquisition should be contemplated.

Growing out of the physical picture with its wide-sprawled ramifications, and overshadowing it in immediate importance is the urgent and inescapable necessity for full coordination among valley interest both in planning and in the acquisition, development and administration of such facilities as are shown to be most appropriate to the valley needs. No time should be lost in establishing and providing for the adequate financing of an intermunicipal entity of some sort to define valley water management objectives and to undertake detailed analysis of the various possibilities for attaining those objectives. If initial appraisals indicate any likelihood of using reservoirs, stream gaging stations should be installed at all prospective sites so that when the time for construction approaches, data will be at hand to allow accurate computation of their respective replenishment capacities.

Whether a reservoir system or a pipeline system for importing water and exporting sewage or a combination of both is determined to be the best solution, a valley authority will probably be needed, with the power to levy taxes and assessments, to purchase or condemn property and to construct and administer major water supply and sewage disposal facilities. One of the prime functions of the planning entity may be to examine extant statutes providing for inter municipal water and sewer authorities and to draft new or amendatory legislation if that is indicated.

## APPENDIX B

### "Summary of Report on Irrigation in Huron River Basin by the Soil Conservation Service."

Of the soils in the Huron River basin areas of continuing articultural importance. Only a portion are considered suitable for irrigation. Of those soils suitable for irrigation it was estimated that only 28,000 acres will be irrigated annually. This is due to certain management practice such as the rotation of irrigated with nonirrigated crops, the inclusion of some nonirrigated crops in the farm enterprise, the growing of soil building crops and following. The overall expected annual acreage of crops that will be irrigated is therefore 28,000. These are the crops that will require 28,738 acre feet of irrigation water annually. This quantity is the amount required at the field, and does not take into account losses in storage or transportation.

Within the areas expected to remain in agricultural use there are several tributary streams that have some active flow during the irrigation season. Along certain reaches of these streams there exists approximately 5,180 acres of riparian lands that will likely be irrigated for crop production. The total flow in these streams during the irrigation season is of such meager proportions that it could satisfy the needs of the crops on only 1,000 acres of land. However, diversion to storage reservoirs during periods of high flows along these same streams and other streams having only seasonal flow could more than satisfy the crop irrigation needs of lands of riparian owners along all such streams. The legal authority for riparian owners to divert water from streams for irrigation of crops is beyond the scope of this report.

As reflected above, the potential demand for 28,738 acre feet of irrigation water annually at the field will have to be met by other than direct stream flow diversion during the irrigation season. The suitable capture and storage of high stream flows and diffused runoff together with such supplementation as may be afforded from ground water sources suggests means of meeting this demand without seriously conflicting with other water needs in the basin.

From the evaluation of soil suitability for agricultural and urban use, it was determined, that, based on soil texture, slope, drainage and the presence or absence of hazardous natural conditions, there is a predominance of moderate to highly favorable soil conditions for urban uses. The existence of areas of soils of low suitability for urban use justifies precautionary procedures such as generous use of detailed soil inventories and constant reference to criteria for urban development. Soils are generally suitable for agriculture, primarily because of less exacting requirements and relatively less expensive treatment measures.

## APPENDIX C

Black & Veatch Engineering Study, Recommendations pp. XIX

Recommendations

1. Adopt and execute a waste-water disposal plan. This will involve the following elements:

   (a) Public policy decisions relating to future water uses.

   (b) Selection and execution of Plan 2 or Plan 5 as may be consistent with advantages, disadvantages and ultimate objectives.

   (c) Creation of a water pollution control administrative agency in the Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti area as needed to insure individual community adherence and cooperation with current and future water pollution control objectives.

2. Create a separate administrative agency for

water management in the entire Huron Basin to:

(a) Acquire, maintain and operate existing hydroelectric dams, now for sale, for flow regulation in the public interest and consistent with water-use policy and objectives.

(b) Obtain stream flow data at potential reservoir sites.

(c) Study the benefit-cost relationship and hydrolgic characteristics of all potential regulating reservoir sites to determine which would yield optimum results.

(d) Acquire reservoir sites.

(e) Construct and operate regulating reservoirs.

(f) Administer future water allocation program as necessary.

(g) Give continuing scrutiny and study to developments involving new and increasing water use with particular emphasis on preventing conflicts between important uses.

3. Conduct an administrative-finance study related to water management. Because this study has implications in recommendations 1 and 2 it should be initiated as soon

as possible.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, sir. Are there any comments or questions? If not, thank you.

(Applause.)

DR. HEUSTIS: I have Carl Johnson, Administrator of the Washtenaw County Board of Supervisors.

MR. PRICE: That is the same Board.

DR. HEUSTIS: All right. Next I have Mayor Robert E. Teifer, of the City of Trenton. He has a written statement.

MAYOR TEIFER: Doctor, I do have a written statement, and if it had taken another ten minutes I would not have stayed, but I do feel I should make a comment on this because Trenton has been branded as the maverick of Wayne County.

DR. HEUSTIS: Step right up.

THE CHAIRMAN: Will you identify yourself, please?

STATEMENT OF ROBERT E. TEIFER, MAYOR,
CITY OF TRENTON, MICHIGAN

MAYOR TEIFER: My name is Robert E. Teifer, and I am representing the City of Trenton, as the City Mayor.

Prior to 1953 the City of Trenton was comprised of approximately 6,000 residents and very little industry. Since that time the population has exploded to over 20,000, and industrial firms such as McLouth Steel, Chrysler Corporation, Engine Division, Shawingign Resins, Vulcan Mold & Iron Company, and Chrysler Corporation-Cycleweld Division, have either expanded or moved into the city limits.

With this residential and industrial expansion program, the City of Trenton was well aware of the pollution load that would accompany such an expansion. All new subdivisions since 1953 have had to provide separate storm and sanitary sewer facilities, and this program has been followed in the older sectionsof the city so that today approximately 85 percent of the city has separate storm and sanitary sewer facilities.

In conjunction with residential development, the City of Trenton Council passed an ordinance making it necessary to install a garbage disposal unit in any laterations to existing residential buildings or new residences.

Recognizing the possibility that the present loading plus future expansion necessitates better sewage treatment than was originally provided for the village of 6,000 people, consulting engineers have been engaged to construct a sewage treatment, sludge drying and incinerator unit to further reduce any possible residential sewage pollution. This plant, when completed, will be one of the most efficient incinerator-sludge-sewage treatment plants in the country, and provisions are incorporated for future secondary treatment at a minimum cost.

With the complete cooperation of all industry, any new construction or expansion plans were thoroughly discussed with the City of Trenton Council before construction permits were granted. Any possible pollution problem was investigated and, if questionable, was referred to the Water Resources

Commission, the Wayne County Department of Health, and Michigan State Health Department for their study and recommendations.

Solving the dust problem of McLouth Steel Corporation resulted in a washing and filtering system that required the installation of approximately a three million dollar treatment plant to eliminate this industrial water pollution. This has been referred to several times, and our friends from Estral Beach have brought it up. We recognize it as McLouth has recognized it. We have spent considerable money, and this process will be set up and running by midsummer. This equipment is now in its trial run and preliminary reports indicate that this industrial treatment plant will be the first and finest of its kind in the industrial world.

Other chemical and industrial plants in the area have also made innovations of storage ponds and lagoons to trap oil and other waste products which, in prior times, had been randomly discharged into the river. These lagoons and ponds have been policed by the Water Resources Commission, and have greatly reduced the sportsmen's complaints against Trenton industry.

The City of Trenton intends to continue the "forward look" to prevent any additional pollution to one of our State's natural resources, and we will cooperate to the fullest to alleviate any of the existing pollution conditions.

This is a written statement, and I have some documents to submit. I would like to add a word or two more.

DR. HEUSTIS: Do you wish this on the record?

MAYOR TEIFER: On the record, please. We have been branded as the maverick community in Wayne County, due to not seeing eye to eye with the Wayne County Board on this overall use of the county sewage disposal system. Trenton has, and we will have a vote on May 8th that will permit us to go ahead and build our own plants separately and strictly on our own. We have been with the county for over 27 years. This condition we have known about locally and we have been overruled for about ten. We think it is about time we get a new contractor, and we are going to do our own contracting. If the City of Trenton had run our own sewage plant for the last 25 years I am sure we would have been in jail ten years ago. This is putting the responsibility of operating this thing strictly on the local level. We do not have 47 or 58 communities to contend with. I am not saying this to say that we should build a wall around the city, or anything else. We have our reasons for leaving this county system, and if the conference would like to spend a little time here and go out there, we would be glad to go into it in more detail on the job.

As you can see from our report it contains a schedule of construction and engineering and financing as we have proposed it for our new plant.

Mr. Stein, and gentlemen, I appreciate this opportunity. I had thought possibly I would turn this in ans save you a couple of minutes, but thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to read the statement.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Mayor Teifer. The documents which you have submitted will be made a part of the record at this point.

(The documents are as follows:

## TRENTON, MICHIGAN

## Sewage Treatment Plant Schedule

### Financing

| | |
|---|---|
| Bond Election | May 8, 1962 |
| Bond Resolution | May 22, 1962 |
| Municipal Finance Commission Approval | July 10, 1962 |
| Bond Sale | July 25, 1962 |
| Money Available | August 20, 1962 |

### Construction and Engineering

| | |
|---|---|
| Contingent award on incinerator and sludge drying equipment | May 9, 1962 |
| Advertise for bids | |
| Contract No. 3 for construction of sewage treatment plant and Contract No. 4 for constructing sanitary sewers and control chambers | May 9, 1962 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Authorize engineering for plans and specifications for incinerator building, Contract No. 2, and N. Trenton pumping station & force main, Ct. #5 and general engineering and resident supervision of construction for all contracts | May 9, 1962 |
| Receive Bids Contracts 3 and 4 | June 28, 1962 |
| Award contracts, Contract #1, incinerator equipment, Contract #3, sewage treatment plant, Contract #4, sewers | July 25, 1962 |
| Start construction contracts 1, 3, and 4 | July 26, 1962 |
| Advertise for bids<br>Ct. #2, Incinerator Building<br>Ct. #5, N. Trenton pumping station and force main | Sept. 29, 1962 |
| Receive Bids Contracts 2 and 5 | Oct. 31, 1962 |
| Award Contracts 2 and 5 | Nov. 5, 1962 |
| Start construction contracts 2 and 5 | Nov. 6, 1962 |
| Have Michigan State Health Department review construction progress and lift ban | Jan. 1, 1963 |
| Complete construction and place in operation Contracts 3 and 4 | April 1, 1963 |
| Complete construction and place in operation Contracts 1, 2, and 5 | Sept. 1, 1963 |

McNamee, Porter and Seeley, Consulting Engineers, Ann Arbor, Michigan, March 27, 1962.

* * * * *

From: McNamee, Porter and Seeley
Consulting Engineers
2223 Packard Road
Ann Arbor, Michigan

January 25, 1962

To: Mr. W. J. Friday
Hornblower and Weeks
244 Penobscot Building
Detroit 26, Michigan

Re: Trenton, Michigan
Sewage Treatment Plant
and Incinerator Construction

Dear Mr. Friday:

In accordance with our telephone conversation, we are pleased to submit to you the following information relative to the above project:

Construction Cost

The estimated construction cost of this project is as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Contract No. 1, for purchase of refuse incinerator and sludge drying equipment | - $275,000 |
| Contract No. 2, for construction of incineration building, sludge drying building and vacuum filter building, including purchase of vacuum filtration equipment and crane for charging the incinerator | - 482,500 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Contract No. 3, for construction of the sewage treatment plant | - $400,000 |
| Contract No. 4, for constructing sanitary sewers and control chambers | - 102,000 |
| Total Estimated Construction Cost | - $1,259,500 |
| Contingencies, Engineering, Financial, Legal, etc., at approximately 20% of construction cost | - 249,500 |
| Total Estimated Project Cost | - $1,509,000 |

The incineration equipment will have a capacity of 100 tons of mixed refuse and dried sludge per day. The design is based on 92 tons of mixed refuse plus 8 tons of dried sludge from the sewage treatment plant.

The sewage treatment plant is of the primary treatment type with various filtration of the undigested sludge, then drying of the vacuum filter cake and ultimately charging this dried sludge into the incinerator where it is burned. The design capacity of the sewage treatment plant is 3.6 million gallons per day with a population load of 32,000.

## Plans, Specifications and Contract Documents

In accordance with your request, we are forwarding to you the following plans and specifications and contract documents which have been completed on the above contracts:

Contract No. 1, Contract No. 3, and Contract No. 4. The plans and specifications for Contract No. 2 have not as yet been started since no work can be done on these until after a decision is made on the purchase of the incineration and sludge drying equipment.

## Estimated Operating Costs

Estimated operating costs for the two facilities are as follows:

### Sewage Treatment Plant

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Salaries | | |
| Chief operator | $6,400 | |
| Operator | 6,000 | |
| Maintenance | 5,750 | |
| Total Salaries - | | $18,150 |
| Power - | | 2,300 |
| Fuel - | | 200 |
| Bulk Chemicals and Laboratory Supplies - | | 7,000 |
| Maintenance Materials - | | 2,000 |
| Billing and Collecting - | | 1,000 |
| Insurance - | | 350 |
| Total Estimated Operating Cost of Sewage Treatment Plant - | | $31,000 |

Estimated annual operating costs of the refuse incinerator and sludge incinerator:

Salaries

Chief Operator - $6,400

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Operator, Equipment | $6,200 | |
| Maintenance | 5,750 | |
| Total Salaries | | $18,350 |
| Power | | 3,000 |
| Fuel | | 300 |
| Maintenance Material | | 3,000 |
| Insurance | | 350 |
| Total Estimated Annual Operating Costs Based on One Shift Per Day, Five Days Per Week | | $25,000 |

We trust that this is the information which you desire, but if there is further data which you need, we would be more than pleased to furnish it.

Very truly yours,
McNAMEE, PORTER AND SEELEY
By: J. C. Seeley)

- - -

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any comments or questions?

DR. HEUSTIS: I would like to place a letter in the record now, a letter received from the McLouth Steel Corporation.

(The letter referred to is as follows:

MC LOUTH STEEL CORPORATION
Manufacturers of
Stainless and Carbon Steels

DETROIT

March 19, 1962

Mr. Milton P. Adams
Executive Secretary
Water Resources Commission
State of Michigan
Station B
Lansing 13, Michigan

Dear Mr. Adams:

Thank you for your invitation to attend the Detroit River - Lake Erie Conference on Tuesday, March 27. Unfortunately, I will be out of town during that week and it will be impossible for me to attend.

I would, however, like to incorporate in the record the following statement by McLouth Steel Corporation:

> As you know, McLouth has been a rapid growth Company. Our large expansion programs began when we started operations at our Trenton, Michigan plant in 1947. The initial investment was $30 million and provided 1800 jobs which had not existed before in the area. From 1952 to 1956 an additional $110 million was spent in new plant and equipment and employment increased to 3400 persons. The five years since 1956 have seen an additional $75 million spent to bring our employment to 4300 men. This $215 million investment

has established McLouth as the 11th largest steel company in the United States with an annual ingot capacity of 2,530,000 tons.

Obviously, with such rapid growth we continued to encounter problems to solve water pollution. During this period we have enjoyed a close and cooperative working arrangement with the Michigan Water Resources Commission and I am sure this cooperative venture was an important contributing factor in solving these problems.

Our expenditures of more than $3 million in new equipment has made McLouth's anti-pollution program one of the most complete and efficient industrial programs in this country.

We anticipate a continuation of working with your Commission on any future problems that may arise.

Sincerely,
McLOUTH STEEL CORPORATION
/s/ Robert C. McLaughlin
Robert C. McLaughlin
Vice President-Public Relations)

DR. HEUSTIS: May I also add for the record a statement of the Detroit Edison Company, signed by Arthur S. Griswold, Vice President, dated March 27, 1962.

(The Detroit Edison Company statement follows:)

## USE OF DETROIT RIVER AND LAKE ERIE WATER
BY
THE DETROIT EDISON COMPANY

The Detroit Edison Company has six large thermal power plants located on the St. Clair and Detroit Rivers. (See Exhibit 1) In addition, the Company owns the turbine-generator facilities of the Enrico Fermi Atomic Power Plant which is located on the western shore of Lake Erie about seven miles north of Monroe. All of these plants use large amounts of water for condensing steam for the turbine-generator sets. (See Exhibit II) This water is returned to the rivers and lake at a temperature of from four to twenty degrees Fahrenheit higher than that at which it entered the plant system. The plants also use a comparatively small amount of water from the rivers or lake for general service purposes, such as washing boilers, wetting ash and operating hydraulic ash handling systems. Most of this general service water is also returned to the river or lake.

With one exception, all of these power plants obtain potable water for all sanitary purposes from the water systems of the area in which they are located. The sanitary system wastes are discharged into the local sewage systems. The Fermi plant, because of the remote area in which it is located, has its own potable water system drawing water from Lake Erie and discharges its wastes through a sewage treatment plant into a large lagoon which ultimately leads to Lake Erie.

The use of water for the condensing of steam in Detroit Edison power plants creates no pollution whatever. In each instance river water is drawn through a trask rack and traveling screens with about 1/2 inch mesh. The solids removed are ultimately discharged back into the river.

Thereafter a small amount of chlorine is added to the water to inhibit algal growth on the condenser surfaces. The water is then pumped through the condensers where its temperature is increased four to ten degrees Fahrenheit or, during peak generating periods, up to sixteen to twenty degrees Fahrenheit in the three largest plants. It is then discharged back into the river. This arrangement is shown by Exhibit III.

The Company has studied the possible pollution effects of its use of water many times. In August and September it conducted extensive tests at the River Rouge Plant to obtain temperature effects which exist at the present time. At the River Rouge Plant, about 375,000 gpm was used for condenser cooling as compared with a total river flow of about 80 million gpm. The temperature of the 375,000 gpm was increased 18 degrees Fahrenheit while passing through the condensers. At 2,700 feet downstream from the point of discharge, the condenser water discharge into the river had mixed with the river flow so thoroughly that a temperature rise of only about one degree could be detected. If all of the heat added to the condenser water was divided evenly in all of the water flowing in the river, the resulting temperature use would have been less than one-tenth of a degree Fahrenheit.

A similar result was found at the Conners Creek Power Plant.

The incidental use of water for general services at our power plants is very small in amount. This water may pick up appreciable amounts of inorganic material such as ash particles, but these settle out quickly and generally before the water reaches the river.

At the Enrico Fermi Atomic Power Plant somewhat special conditions exist. There is no appreciable current along the lake shore and it was desirable to separate the intake and discharge works to prevent recirculation of the water from the discharge into the intake system. This was accomplished by drawing the water from Lake Erie and discharging it into a large lagoon from which it ultimately will reach Swan Creek and return to Lake Erie.

There will be a small accumulation of radioactive water in the operation of the nuclear reactor of the Fermi

Plant. Extensive facilities are provided for the collection and retention of these wastes until they are no longer harmful. They will be held in special storage tanks until their level of activity is very low and then slowly diluted and dispersed into the cooling water discharged from the condenser of the turbine. This entire problem has been worked out in detail with the Michigan Water Resources Commission and has that Commission's approval. From the standpoint of radioactivity, the waterentering the lagoon would be perfectly safe for drinking.

Some of our power plants are now equipped with demineralizers for boiler water purification. Comparatively small amounts of very dilute acid and alkali are discharged into the condenser overflow canals when these demineralizers are regenerated. These installations and the discharge of their wastes have the approval of the Michigan Water Resources Commission.

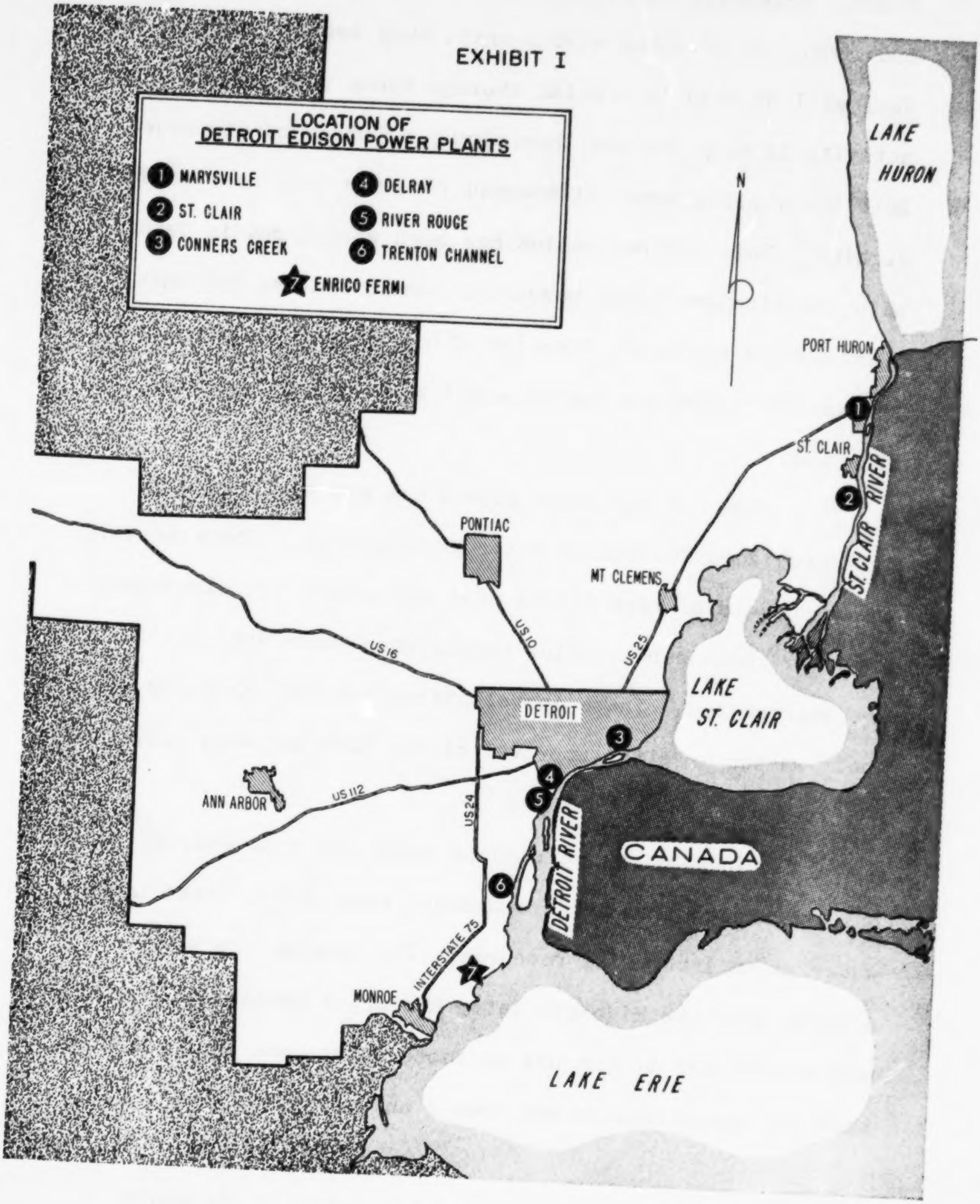
In closing, we wish to point out that Detroit Edison has long recognized the tremendous value of the Great Lakes water as an industrial resource. The Company has worked closely with the Michigan Water Resources Commission on all matters related to the use of those waters and believes firmly that its operations do not create any significant pollution.

/s/ Arthur Griswold

Submitted by: Arthur S. Griswold
Vice President -- March 27, 1962

(Exhibits I, II and III accompanying the statement of Detroit Edison follow:)

## EXHIBIT I


LOCATION OF DETROIT EDISON POWER PLANTS
① MARYSVILLE
② ST. CLAIR
③ CONNERS CREEK
④ DELRAY
⑤ RIVER ROUGE
⑥ TRENTON CHANNEL
⑦ ENRICO FERMI
N
LAKE HURON
PORT HURON
ST. CLAIR
ST. CLAIR RIVER
PONTIAC
MT CLEMENS
US 16
US 10
US 25
LAKE ST. CLAIR
DETROIT
ANN ARBOR
US 112
US 24
DETROIT RIVER
CANADA
INTERSTATE 75
MONROE
LAKE ERIE

## EXHIBIT II

## Use of River Water for Condenser Cooling in Detroit Edison Power Plants

| Plant | Nameplate Capacity (Megawatts) | Maximum Water Usage (Gallons per Minute) | Temperature Rise in Water used (Fahrenheit) |
|---|---|---|---|
| MARYSVILLE | 300 | 120,500 | 9 degrees |
| ST. CLAIR | 1,275 | 580,000 | 16 degrees |
| CONNERS CREEK | 515 | 208,000 | 10 degrees |
| DELRAY | 375 | 190,000 | 10 degrees |
| RIVER ROUGE | 841.5 | 480,000 | 20 degrees |
| TRENTON CHANNEL | 500 | 250,000 | 16 degrees |
| ENRICO FERMI | 150 | --- | -- |

Arthur S. Griswold
March 27, 1962

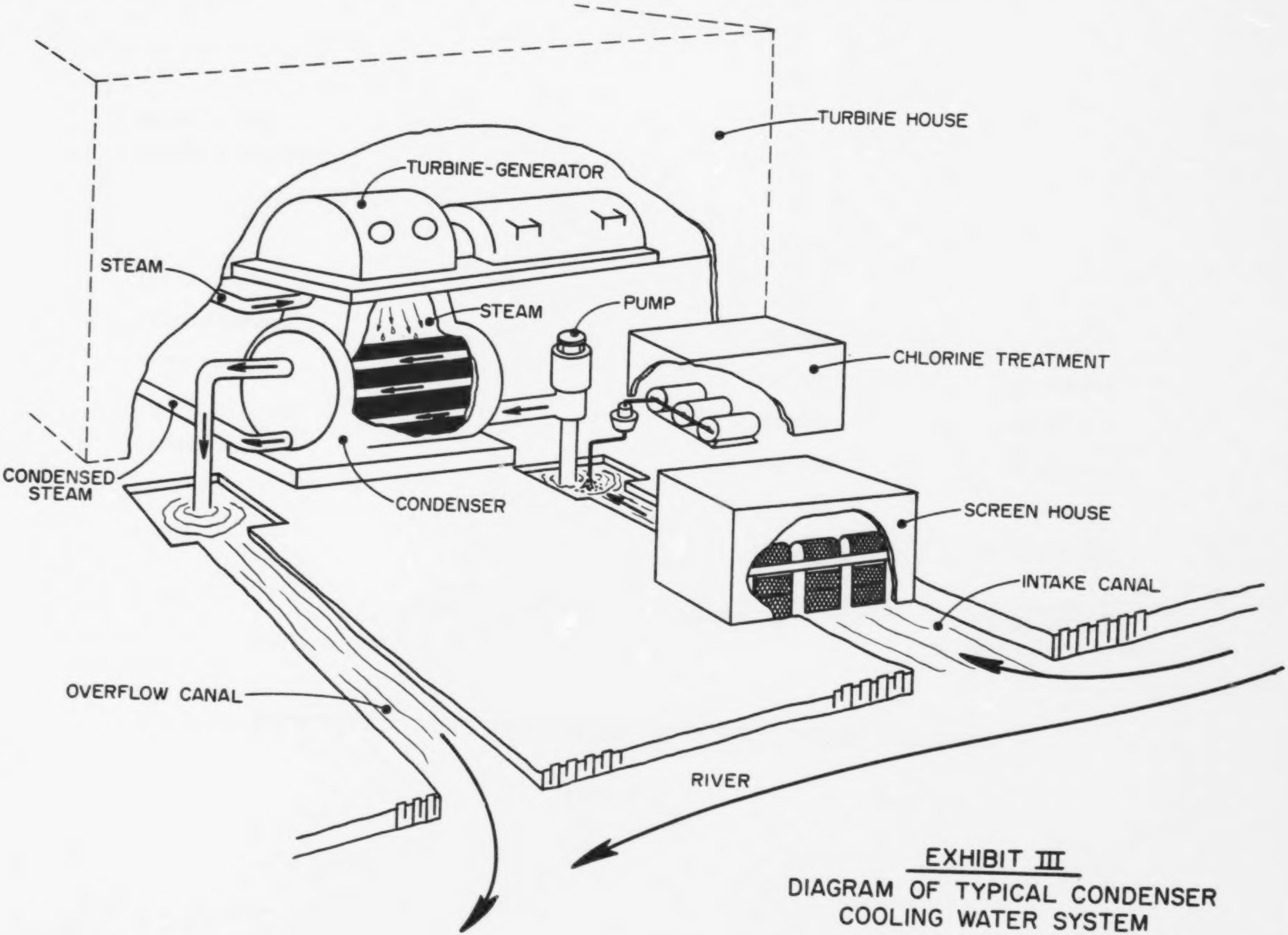

TURBINE HOUSE
TURBINE-GENERATOR
STEAM
STEAM
PUMP
CHLORINE TREATMENT
CONDENSED STEAM
CONDENSER
SCREEN HOUSE
INTAKE CANAL
OVERFLOW CANAL
RIVER

EXHIBIT III

DIAGRAM OF TYPICAL CONDENSER
COOLING WATER SYSTEM

GPO 820819-C-29

DR. HEUSTIS: Mr. Adams says there is someone from the Detroit Edison Company here. I do not mean to shut anyone off, but I understood that the written statement would be satisfactory.

MR. MURPHY: That is correct.

THE CHAIRMAN: Would you identify yourself for the record, please?

MR. MURPHY: A. Gerald Murphy. I represent Mr. Arthur S. Griswold, who signed the report and wanted to have it entered into the record.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

DR. HEUSTIS: Thank you, Mr. Murphy.

DR. HEUSTIS: We have a letter from the Izaak Walton League of America, presented by Fred Noyes, President of the Michigan State Division.

(The Izaak Walton League of America statement is as follows:)

THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA, INCORPORATED

March 28, 1962

Chairman of the Conference
Public Health Service
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the Michigan Division of The Izaak Walton League of America, I wish to formally place on the record my belief that the hearing conducted in Detroit on March 27 and 28, 1962 under auspices of the United States Health Department, Michigan Water Resources Commission and other agencies has been most illuminating and will accomplish invaluable results. The position of our National Society from its inception in 1922 is to bring about scientifically and orderly the elimination of the pollution of the nation's inland waters. With the cooperation of the Dominion of Canada it is logical to assume that this can be brought about.

Should the waste substances and the polutants that occur were to be left on the surface it would create a pestilence that could do much to decimate our population.

It therefore is reasonable to measure with alarm the effect it is having upon our inland waters and coastal bodies and it is incumbent, if not inexorable, that all agencies in governmental and civic life band together in converting our waters into the safe refuge for marine life and for the healthy consumption of our populace.

I take this occasion to compliment the governmental agencies, industrial and civic, for their help and continuing effort in this cause.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Fred Noyes
President
Michigan State Division

/s/ Del A. Smith
Del A. Smith
Member State Board

- - -

DR. HEUSTIS: Mr. Chairman, my agenda tells me I have only one person that indicated they should be called on that I have not called on, which is the Oakland County Department of Public Works. Mr. Stein, this completes the presentation of the State's case, with the one exception that we have a statement from the Michigan United Conservation Clubs, which we will submit for the record also.

(The statement of the Michigan United Conservation

Clubs is as follows:)

Statement as presented by Michigan
United Conservation Clubs - Pollution
Conference, March 27-28, 1962

My name is James L. Rouman, Executive Director of Michigan United Conservation Clubs, a state-wide organization made up of approximately 340 affiliate sportsmens groups with a total membership of approximately 60,000.

It is indeed encouraging to note the increasing interest that has been evident in this new effort to curb pollution on the Detroit River. This problem has been a major objective of our organization, Michigan United Conservation Clubs, for many, many years.

In fact, our organization, in calling attention to a duck kill on the Detroit River over 10 years ago by placing thousands of these dead ducks on the Capitol steps in Lansing, was certainly helpful in the formation of the present Water Resources Commission.

Down through the years we have reported, objected to and condemned the continued pollution, and have reported it in succeeding issues of our publication, "Michigan Out-of-Doors".

In subsequent years, periodic duck and fish kills were noted at various times, with the most notable of these in April 1960, when the headlines read: "Thousands of Ducks Die in Detroit River Oil Slick". The sub-heading reads:

"Officials Unable to Trace Exact Source".

An editorial in the same issue entitled "Pollution Points Up Need" concluded by saying that "It is time that the big industries in the Detroit area become indoctrinated with the spirit of conservation, even though it might prove to be an unpleasant experience".

In the May, 1960 issue the headline reads: "Death Of Ducks Blamed On Sewage By-Pass at Detroit", and the sub-head says that "Human Failures Combine With Weather to Kill Nearly 12,000".

The editorial in this issue calls attention to the fact that state agencies knew that raw sewage at the rate of 84 million gallons of raw sewage per day was being pumped into the river for most of the month of March while repairs were being made on the Northwest Interceptor sewer.

In October of 1960, the Detroit River was again hit by pollution, when 1,500 gallons of waste oil was discharged into the water, but in this instance the new monitoring system of the WRC detected it in time.

This conference is certainly an encouraging sign that perhaps something will come of continued cooperation between the Water Resources Commission, the Health Department, all the industries and municipalities concerned, and all Federal agencies involved.

Our feelings can best be summed up by an editorial in the December, 1961 issue of "Michigan Out-Of-Doors", entitled

"Needed, A Big Stick":

"There is a very marked apathy throughout Michigan on the problem of pollution of the streams and rivers by industry and by a burgeoning population.

"Generally the people of the state are not aware that a problem exists, and go blithely on their way, enjoying the blue waters to the fullest. This is, until pollution comes to them.

"On the other hand, dedicated conservationists and outdoorsmen are looking with alarm at the increasing number of problem areas, as they grow in volume and intensity.

"They read with alarm a statement made by the Water Resources Commission which says: '...even when all of the measures are in effect as described herein, no assurance can be given that a uniform quality of water consistently acceptable for recreational bathing purposes can be maintained at the beach (Sterling State Park).'

"They read with some satisfaction the news that crackdowns are taking place in some areas, such as automatic laundries, airports, small manufacturers, milk processing plants and other smaller companies.

"But let's face the problem squarely. The big problem areas have been problem areas for years, and will evidently continue to stay that way. Our streams are being contaminated daily by scores of communities and by big industries.

"MUCC and other conservation groups have been accused often of standing in the way of progress. Because they have locked horns with industry on other occasions a great hue and cry has gone up that we are keeping industry out and are biting the hand that feeds us.

"This, of course, is not our intention. We feel that industry and wildlife can live side by side, providing industry will do its part in containing wastes.

"Michigan is the leader in the automotive industry. It is way out ahead in many fields, and from the drawing boards of this State have come machines that can think, machines that can fly, machines that can almost speak, guided missiles, rockets and gadgets that will some day put a man on the moon, and yet we haven't been able to devise a sound sewage system!

"What the 'Water Wonderland' needs is a big stick and somebody big enough to swing it hard. The time for the 'standing in the corner' type of punishment is past. We must take firm action to prevent this daily discharge of filth into our waters! Who's going to do it?" )

* * * * *

(Following are documents received at a subsequent date.)

(The Statement of the City of Mount Clemens is as follows:

MOUNT CLEMENS, MICHIGAN

WATER PURIFICATION PLANT

AND PUMPING STATION

36570 JEFFERSON AVENUE

March 28th, 1962

Mr. Milton Adams, Executive Secretary,
Michigan Water Resources Commission,
200 Mill St., Station B,
Lansing 13, Michigan.

Re: Detroit River-Lake Erie Conference

Dear Mr. Adams:

Your letter of March 7th was mislaid in the city office and not turned over to me until March 26th. By that time the deadline for written statements had passed. I had a deadline of March 18th to hand in my departmental budget to the City Manager, so I was working night and day on that to meet the deadline. Our lab technician, Mr. William Bennett, represented Mt. Clemens at the Detroit Conference. I was disappointed not to be able to make a statement for I am extremely interested in improvement of water supplies and the abatement of pollution. However, Mr. Bennett upon enquiry found that I could still make a statement if I rushed one off to you and it would go into the record. This was confirmed by Mr. Oeming over the telephone. So I hope you will contrive to help us add our voice to the effort toward cleaner waters.

Item 1. In regards to navigable waters. We suffer considerably, as you may know, from the pollution of our raw water supply by the Clinton River. Having been dredged, it is navigable up to the Dickenson Street Bridge in this city and plans are afoot to dredge it farther back. The pollution of this river also adds to the pollution of the Detroit River, which is navigable. You may remember remarks made by the Superintendent of the Detroit Water System, Mr. Lennardt, some years ago, when we were subjected to heavy phenol pollution from Reichold Chemical Corporation in Ferndale. He attributed approximately half their phenol problems in Detroit to the Clinton River, and approximately half to sources near Sarnia. This is an illustration of how the Clinton River can also affect Detroit and the total pollution problem there, and the downriver communities, and the flow toward cities in Ohio.

We are also concerned about pollution of our raw water by lake steamers and smaller water craft in the vicinity of our plant intake. The intake is located approximately 4,400 feet from the shoreline in the rear of our Mt. Clemens plant. It is in a depth of water where many cabin cruisers venture. There is no marking on this submerged intake. Boats plying these waters could easily discharge wastes that would flow directly into our intake. Regulations are needed to protect our intake from such pollution. Water craft should not be allowed to discharge wastes indiscriminately in lands and waterways.

Despite the fact that your agencysuccessfully controlled the tremendous discharge of phenol from Reichold Chemical Corporation and ended a nightmare of bad taste problems, the Clinton River still is a source of heavy industrial and septic pollution. The past month we experienced the worst run-off in many years. The past two years we could not for sure identify a true run-off apart from conditions experienced by a stirred-up lake from wind conditions. So I do not believe the river was scoured out for three years. Normally 4 to 6 run-offs scour out the river and then usually gives us little more trouble until the next run-off season. It is usually during the run-off period that we have the worst trouble with taste and odor complaints from consumers.

This time apparently the accumulation of three years of sludge in the river came out all at once in the flood stage of the river -- the highest rise in the river since 1947! There no doubt were many petro-chemicals in this sludge for we had medicinal-chemical tastes in the city tap water that were quite characteristic of phenol. We also had the time-delayed reaction that made control so difficult. Except for the first day, the water did not taste leaving the plant but developed a bad taste in the distribution system. None on the feeder mains, but as the water spread out toward the extremities of the system the taste became stronger and stronger.

We had a huge amount of telephone complaints. We tried new chemicals and new coagulants and coagulant aids besides the standard old standby chemicals including carbon. We tried many arrangements of chemical feeds to try to put out a taste-free water. We worked night and day to exhaustion to cope with this problem, hiring a great deal of extra help during the run-off to help us out. The large amount of chemicals and extra help runs up a very high bill for water treatment. We are just "tapering off" now in our excessive treatment. We are very apprehensive of the next run-off after what we have gone through.

Item 2. Adequacy of measures. We appreciate the work your Commission has done in past years. We still believe there is a great deal of work to be done. Especially as this area builds up and more and more wastes are discharged into the Clinton River. Treatment of wastes should be required where none exist. Improvement of inadequate treatment should be instituted. Mt. Clemens has complete treatment of their municipal wastes. We note that many communities have none, or intermittent, or only primary treatment. If small communities like Mt. Clemens are required to have primary and secondary treatment why should not all communities be required to have the same? And if this treatment is still inadequate then research is needed to find ways of putting out even better effluents from all sewage treatment plants. With tremendous growth of population and great industrial expansion, certainly we must do more and more to protect the water supplies of this State and this Nation. Is it reasonable to expect centers of populations to extend pipelines farther and farther back toward virgin waters in order to continue to exist? Must future generations extend pipelines to Lake Superior as the last stronghold of virgin waters to guarantee pure waters to their consumers? And what happens in the meanwhile to the downstream communities? Those especially who cannot, because of geography, extend their intakes to similar pure waters? Must they be satisfied with a poor grade water that grows steadily? We must think of the future. Why should we carelessly ignore it and let our descendants solve the mounting problems we would leave with them? I believe we should face the problems we are currently helping to create, to hold the line, to improve the bad conditions that now exist. For we are surely cowards if we do not. That, or extremely selfish or inconsiderate individuals.

I firmly believe that Federal control of water pollution is a vital thing. Problems cannot always be solved entirely within each State. This nation is a family of States. State agencies for water resources control are essential to each State. Federal control between States is also essential.

It is said Michigan is losing industry to the South.

Wages no doubt are a factor. But so is the savings effected by industries in not treating their wastes. Little thought is given to this in areas that have had very little industry. But as industries multiply, then so does the pollution problem. Eventually pollution control becomes just as vital in newly-opened areas for industrial development as it is now in the older established areas. Here is where Federal control can be very useful also. To save the clean waters of the States now enjoying such privileges by requiring waste treatment of all industrial wastes -- anywhere in the nation.

Economically, also, this is the only fair thing to do since the price of any product from any industry anywhere would include the cost of waste treatment. It would remove unfair practices and unfair competition. It would prevent irresponsible people from inviting industries to come in and exploit their natural resources to the detriment of them and of the entire picture of the nation's natural resources. For it tends also to bring about a "softer" approach in the areas now trying to approach good control for fear of losing more and more industry. The nation as a whole is the loser. Good Federal control can completely change this trend.

Item 3. The nature of delays. The "seed" of delay is in what I have stated in the foregoing several paragraphs. Are we in for a "softer and softer" approach in this State because of these facts? Or are the officials and elected representatives in the national government going to see their responsibility and take the necessary action to protect this nation's resources and economy as a whole? The decision is in their hands. We have gone a long ways. We have continued trying to the point where it begins to "hurt." We need their help. We are asking for their help. The problem goes so much farther than what we can do locally. We have "helped ourselves" with our problems to the limit and we must now look to a higher authority as a base for future greater efforts.

This plant serves the City of Mt. Clemens which built this water treatment plant. But we also serve three townships and Selfridge Air Force Base. A total of 65,000 people. Our responsibilities to those people are very great and we realize them fully. We will continue to do whatever may help to bring a quality water supply to them, as much as they need, and whenever they require it. Abatement of pollution is always a challenge and one which we will never shirk.

There is one thing that I feel could be done quite simply to help the quality of our water supply. There is a citizens group that feels the same way. We have had no success in our efforts to date. That is removal of the spillway dam. About 11 or 12 years ago the Army Engineers dug a big ditch -- the spillway -- from the Clinton River at Shadyside Park in Mt. Clemens to Lake St. Clair. It was for flood control. A weir or dam was placed in it at the Clinton

River junction. To the surprise of many the river often reversed itself and flowed backwards from the mouth of the Clinton to the spillway and out to the lake. Since the river in the summer is almost stagnant and covered with green algae, often smelling badly as well, this was a welcome sight. It inspired many to believe that if the spillway dam were removed then the river would flow backwards most of the time, to the spillway, and would bring in clean lake water. This would be a boon to watercraft which could make good use of this scenic boat drive as the river has been dredged back to the Dickenson Bridge. It would encourage the use of this section of the river for recreation for thousands of people. The River Beautification Committee of Mt. Clemens is very interested, and there is a coming appropriation for improved dockage facilities in this part of Mt. Clemens.

I have been interested in this project for it is my own personal belief that without the spillway dam most of the water during a run-off period would shoot directly out the spillway at this turn in the river, and the effluent of the spillway goes in a southerly direction. Thus, our intake, which is north of the spillway effluent, would escape the heaviest portion of river pollution. What river water did come out the mouth of the river might then be diluted by lake water instead of coming over our intake in full concentration. Our intake is south of the Clinton River mouth. The flow in the lake in this area is roughly southerly. A map would show you better what I mean.

A group of eight men interested in this project recently went up in a helicopter to witness this flow pattern and take pictures of it. All the official agencies that I have consulted have more or less handed the problem back to us. The burden of proof is upon us. Colonel R. C. Pfeil, head of the Corps of Engineers in Detroit says he can do nothing about this problem since he nas nothing in his budget for that purpose. Agencies have been concerned about the dilution of effluents from sewage treatment plants of Mt. Clemens, Clinton Township and Selfridge Field. However, we now have maximum conditions affecting these plants. Often there is no flow of the river in either direction. How could the problem be made worse? Wouldn't the encouragement of flow in any direction be better than none?

Why should the burden of proof be upon us? It is a problem involving many agencies. Why cannot an appropriation be given to the Corps of Engineers to make a thorough study of elevations and the flow pattern in the river and in Lake St. Clair where our intake is involved? The Great Lakes Institute has facilities and would be able to make these studies also if there is an agency willing to pay the costs. We were never consulted when the dam was installed originally. Controlled gates would have been far better. Even the Metropolitan Beach may very well be benefited with better water by removal of the weir. NOne of us have been satisfied with any statements made to date on the weir. Why shouldn't the burden of proof be on the Army Engineers and Corps of Engineers who designed and installed it? Cannot an appropriation be included in their next budget to make a thorough study? Or Should an impartial outside agency do the work? Such as the United States Public Health Service?

This is the third "time around" for me on this spillway dam proposition. Back when it was first opened up City Water Commissioner Spencer Fenton asked me to see if we could get the Army Engineers (then still in charge) to remove this weir. No success. And former City Manager Robert Heitsch, about in 1956, asked me to make a study of this weir problem again. Now a citizen's committee with many members is strongly interested in this project from the standpoint of a large increased recreational use of the river, and the River Beautification Committee, which is striving to improve the attractiveness of the Clinton River for greater enjoyment by all citizens. They have worked hard and put many hours into this effort. A great deal of public interest has been aroused. So far it has reached only a stand-off relationship with all agencies involved, and no prospect of carrying the matter to a conclusion.

Will you please give this matter your earnest consideration? Please try to work out an engineering or scientific survey of river and lake flows and elevations so that a good decision can be made and a satisfactory answer given to all questions. If such a study were made I am sure that everyone concerned would be happy to abide by whatever decision would result from it. Would you please consider attempting to obtain funds for a thorough study? For either the United States Public Health Service, or for the Army Corps of Engineers?

Thank you for taking the time to read my statement and for the consideration of the material I have presented. I am grateful to all concerned for bringing this meeting about and I have great hopes that much good will come from it for all citizens of Michigan and of the United States. Thank you again.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) Robert E. Hansen, Superintendent
Water Purification and Pumping,
City of Mt. Clemens Water Department,
Mt. Clemens, Michigan.)

* * * * *

(Telegram from Mr. Lifton of the Outboard Boating Club of America to Mr. Poston, dated March 28, 1962, is as follows:

WESTERN UNION

3/28/62

H. W. Poston
U.S. Public Health Service
Banquet Room, Veterans' Memorial Building
Detroit, Michigan

The Outboard Boating Club of America representing the sport and the industry strongly endorses and supports all appropriate measures to minimize pollution from all sources of the Detroit River and connecting waters. The pleasures and opportunities of boating are severely diminished by polluted waters.

Pleasure boaters themselves cause only minimal pollution. Nevertheless the industry has forcefully pursued all avenues toward eliminating this minor irritant.

We believe all steps should be taken to enhance the recreational quality of the waters serving Detroit metropolitan area. We have cooperated in the past with State officials who seek these same goals and are certain their fine efforts will be continued.

Sincerely regret staff illnesses precluded personal attendance at conference.

Fred B. Lifton, Director, Government Relations
Department, Outboard Boating Club of America
307 N. Michigan Avenue
Chicago 1, Illinois.)

* * * * *

## SUMMATION BY CHAIRMAN

THE CHAIRMAN: With that we will attempt to summarize and my oral summary, of course, will be subject to any modifications or suggestions that the conferees may wish to make.

First I would like to indicate that I think we have provided, and you people have provided, an excellent record here. Once the transcript comes out, I think by referring to it we will have a fund of information available in one area, where perhaps such information was not available before.

Through the years we have been sort of sparring around and doing business with Mr. Milton P. Adams. Whenever any foreign visitor came to Washington they always asked us what is one of the better State programs to look at, and invariably we sent them to Michigan. I think that the record here, both the report that our Department prepared, and the report we got from the State and others, indicates that this is so. I don't think that we could have developed the record and gotten so much data at a first session of a conference in practically any other area. At least to my experience this has not been done, particularly in an area where we have as complicated and as sophisticated a situation as we have in the Detroit metropolitan area.

Now, before we get into the specifics of the summary, I would suggest that at least to my way of thinking we and all parties here seem pretty, pretty close together. I suggest when you get home, and some of this wears off, and the record comes out, that you look at this with an objective and unjaundiced eye to see what can come out of it. I think that there are two main trends: One has been a description of the conditions in the river. We have heard the people talk about that, and we have heard the Public Health Service report on that.

The other has been exemplified by a detailed cataloging of the construction and proposed construction that should go on, and that necessarily has to go on in the area. Although these two aspects of the problem have to be resolved in every case, I think that the people who think on one side or the other necessarily have to think in terms of the total picture. On the one hand, the people who get out on the river and see what is happening in the river have to think in terms of governmental organization, financing, municipal problems and inter-municipal problems. On the other hand, the people who are building the plants not only have to think in terms of construction of plants and providing pipelines and new plants, but the point that they have to determine is what is this doing to the water quality in the river. What do we use the Detroit River for now, perhaps, that we didn't use it for ten years ago?

I think if all parties approached this record with these views in mind and attempt to conciliate these views, I think we will be a long ways toward a solution.

I think it is pretty clear that the waters of the United States on Lake St. Clair, the Detroit River, and western Lake Erie, and its tributaries in Michigan in the Detroit area, are navigable waters within the meaning of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. I think also in the aggregate it is shown that combined municipal and industrial wastes from this area have created a condition of pollution subject to abatement under the Act, and that it causes deterioration of water quality so as to interfere with the domestic and industrial water supply, recreation, fish and wildlife, esthetic values, and navigation.

I think on the basis of the record here it is probably too early to make an adequate judgment of the adequacy of the measures taken toward abating pollution. I think cognizance should be taken of the excellent work and programming of the Michigan State authorities; the fact that almost all the wastes in this area are being treated, and the fact that many of the industries and communities have gone ahead with plans and have active programs to go ahead with plans, and have in almost all cases installed waste treatment facilities, and are very much aware of the program.

Again, I do not think that a really valid judgment can be made of the adequacy of the measures until we take into account the proposals. We have heard here from the various groups for expanding and improving their plants. From a logical point of view I think that we can break this down into three parts: As I pointed out earlier, I think after the first presentation, we have a very, very complex, subtle and sophisticated problem in this area. We do not have massive discharges of raw wastes that you can spot and which need correction. First, I would suspect many of the areas, or many of the persons discharging wastes, may very well at the present time have adequate treatment plants in effect. Others may have adequate plants in prospect. Still others' plants may not be adequate. However, what we do know in the aggregate is, while we cannot say that any single municipality or industry at the present time, at least on the basis of this record, is not providing adequate treatment, we know in the aggregate the municipal and industrial wastes in this area are causing a pollution situation which is not indicative of adequate treatment.

The only question here that has to be resolved is whether if, in the nature of things, with the new plants going into effect, this will still be adequate treatment. I think we have to keep in mind the prime fact that just the detailing or the building of new plants and going forward with plants over the years does not achieve very much if, over the years, the people who are using the river experience a degradation in water quality. And this is something I think again that we have to keep in mind.

Then we come to the next point, which is the nature of the delays, if any, being encountered in abating pollution. I think we can go into a great deal of detail on that. I think the nature of delays here can only be categorized by saying that Detroit is facing the same kind of situation faced by almost all, or, I might say, all the large cities of this country. Where we have a municipal and an industrial complex concentrated in an area with a limited water resource, where the wastes treated or untreated are being discharged into the resource, the problem becomes one of approaching this on a coordinated area-wide basis and putting in adequate treatment facilities.

As a matter of fact, I do think that Detroit probably is better off than many, many of the other large cities which in large measure are providing no treatment, because these places truly have to employ heroic measures. I am not sure that in Detroit a reasonable, progressive, political and engineering plan won't be sufficient to deal with your problem.

Again I think that you have the very vexing problem that many of the older cities are connected with. This is the problem of storm water overflows. This problem, as we know, can be among the most difficult of solutions, and one not really amenable to very glib answers. In this case I think that, as Mr. Oeming pointed out, you are approaching this on a case-by-case basis. The problem of dealing with storm water overflows is going to call for -- if it is a problem, and if it is decided it has to be eliminated for the benefit of the water quality in this area -- it is a problem that has to be approached with some real imagination. This is a problem that we are coping with in most of the large, major cities. The solutions, or the proposed solutions -- and all of them are not very simple -- are such that we have come up with some ingenious plans in some cities; and I am sure that the people in Detroit, if it is considered that these problems have to be taken care of, can come up with some type of solution to this short of ripping up every street in the city and tying up traffic and prohibiting an automobile from going through the city for the next fifteen years. That does not seem to me to be a reasonable alternative.

I think also that we should take cognizance of this six counties study, and the Public Health Service and the Department have supported that by giving it a grant. I think again that this kind of grant was made because we like to see the development of an intergovernmental operation which can handle the problem on a coordinated basis.

Again I think that this program is largely going to deal with providing a master plan, a governmental organization to decide what kind of treatment is going to be provided, and how you are going to provide the service, and where you are going to provide the service. However, in addition to that, there is this other problem which is to us, in a sense, the key one, namely, what is happening on the river.

On this point, as has been indicated by the statements here, we have a fairly good notion of what is happening on the river in a broad sense. We know that there is pollution because it interferes with these water uses. However, there are very, very many gaps in our knowledge, and it would seem to me we would be well advised to try to understand what the situation of the river is, and what is causing it, and how this situation could be improved. I think data from a study of this sort would be invaluable to the six-county group, or any other group, in planning water resource development or waste treatment in this area. Once we get that knowledge I think we will be able to go forward. We look on this type of data-gathering, information-gathering procedure, as a device which will form the bulwark and support of the other activities. On the basis of some of the information given here, particularly the effects on Lake Erie, I think that perhaps we, as the Federal Water Pollution

Control Agency, may very well have an obligation to investigate that, and to provide the answers to it. I do not think we could very well go along without it.

However, what I would propose is that this investigation, in the tradition of our Department, be done in closest cooperation with the State agencies concerned, and that we get together with you in talking about priorities, scope and methodology of the investigation, and we try to do this in the closest cooperative way, with the State agencies, and that the details of the investigation be left up to the technical staffs of the Public Health Service, the State Health Department, and the Water Resources Commission of the State of Michigan.

Now, I am also authorized to say for our Department that in recognition of the complexity of this problem it very well may be anticipated that a study of this kind would not just require a crew out from our Cincinnati laboratory to visit the area with a few short dip buckets for two or three weeks. What may be required is a resident year-round group here to provide the technical backup for such an investigation. I think we are authorized, if this should be the conclusion of the conferees, to pledge the Federal financial support and Federal personnel and equipment to handle a complex problem of this kind. Even in Federal terms the cost is fairly high.

I would again suggest that, if it is agreeable, our Department take it upon themselves to provide a synopsis and a report on progress every six months, which we will make available to the State agencies, and this will be done in conjunction with the State for distribution to all concerned until we have enough results where it might be productive to go forward. Also, that we might consider this the first session of the conference and have future sessions of the conference on call of the Chairman, with the concurrence of the State, if these are deemed to be desirable.

Are there any comments, or questions, or modifications?

DR. HEUSTIS: None at all.

MR. EDDY: Very good.

THE CHAIRMAN: If that is agreeable, we hope that our technical staffs will get together in the near future and try to put this show on the road.

I want to thank you all for coming and bearing with us. I think we are much further ahead in the program. I think I understand it better, and I think we have learned a lot. We would like to thank you all for coming and we stand adjourned until next time. Thank you very much.

(Whereupon, at 5:30 o'clock p.m., the conference was adjourned, subject to call.)

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct transcript of the stenographic notes of the proceedings of the above-described conference.

Jack Rund
JACK RUND
Certified Shorthand Reporter